

Article 56 Proceedings
WITNESS: UGA-OTP-P-0235

(Closed Session)

ICC-02/04-01/15

1 International Criminal Court
2 Pre-Trial Chamber II - Courtroom 1
3 Situation: Uganda
4 In the case of The Prosecutor v. Dominic Ongwen - ICC-02/04-01/15
5 Single Judge Cuno Tarfusser
6 Article 56 Proceedings
7 Tuesday, 17 November 2015
8 *(The proceedings start in closed session at 9.30 a.m.) Reclassified as Open session
9 THE COURT USHER: All rise.
10 The International Criminal Court is now in session.
11 Please be seated.
12 SINGLE JUDGE TARFUSSER: Good morning to everybody.
13 You're changing all the time so we have to for the record to put on the record who is
14 here for the Prosecution.
15 I see the Defence is the same, Defence team is the same as yesterday, so there is no
16 need.
17 But I invite the Prosecutor to put on the record the composition of the team.
18 MR SACHITHANANDAN: Yes, your Honour. I am Pubudu Sachithanandan
19 appearing with Ben Gumpert, Michaela Wagner, Karen Heath, Adesola Adeboyejo
20 and Ramu Bittaye.
21 SINGLE JUDGE TARFUSSER: Thank you very much.
22 I now go to Kampala to see the witness.
23 Good morning, Madam Witness.
24 WITNESS: UGA-OTP-P-0235
25 (The witness speaks Acholi)

Article 56 Proceedings
WITNESS: UGA-OTP-P-0235

(Closed Session)

ICC-02/04-01/15

1 (The witness gives evidence via video link)

2 THE WITNESS (Interpretation): Good morning.

3 SINGLE JUDGE TARFUSSER: Good morning, Felipe.

4 THE COURT OFFICER (Via video link): Good morning, your Honour. I am here
5 together with the witness.

6 SINGLE JUDGE TARFUSSER: Madam Witness, I would start with you by asking
7 you to tell us your name, your date of birth and every other thing which can identify
8 you.

9 THE WITNESS: (Interpretation) My name is (Redacted). I was born in (Redacted)
10 1987 (Redacted). I was born on (Redacted) 1987.

11 SINGLE JUDGE TARFUSSER: Thank you very much. You know that you are a
12 witness in these proceedings and as witness you have the duty to tell the truth to the
13 Court. You know that?

14 THE WITNESS: (Interpretation) Yes, I do.

15 SINGLE JUDGE TARFUSSER: You will be questioned first by the Prosecutor and
16 then by the Defence, but before starting the questioning, you have to make a solemn
17 undertaking. And therefore I would ask you to say with me the following words: I
18 solemnly declare that I will speak the truth.

19 THE WITNESS: (Interpretation) I solemnly swear that I will tell the truth.

20 SINGLE JUDGE TARFUSSER: The whole truth and nothing but the truth.

21 THE WITNESS: (Interpretation) The whole truth and nothing but the truth.

22 SINGLE JUDGE TARFUSSER: Thank you. Now I have to inform you that giving
23 false testimony is an offence and as such punishable before this Court.

24 I have to inform you also that you can object answering questions if these questions
25 might tend to incriminate you. If you object, then I will decide whether you should

Article 56 Proceedings
WITNESS: UGA-OTP-P-0235

(Closed Session)

ICC-02/04-01/15

1 be required in any case to answer. In that case, if necessary, I will provide you with

2 counsel to give you legal advice. Is this what I said clear to you?

3 THE WITNESS: (Interpretation) Yes, it is clear.

4 SINGLE JUDGE TARFUSSER: So if everything is clear, I will now give the floor to

5 the Prosecutor, to the Office of the Prosecutor for his questioning.

6 The floor is yours.

7 MR SACHITHANANDAN: Thank you, your Honour.

8 QUESTIONED BY MR SACHITHANANDAN:

9 Q. Good morning, Madam Witness.

10 A. Good morning.

11 Q. Madam Witness, could you tell us what schools you attended?

12 A. I went to (Redacted) school.

13 Q. Where was (Redacted) school?

14 A. It was located in (Redacted).

15 Q. Did you complete your schooling at (Redacted)?

16 A. I didn't finish my studies in that school.

17 Q. Why didn't you finish your studies?

18 A. Because in September my mother came and took me to Kitgum town and I was

19 abducted while I was in Kitgum town so I didn't finish my studies.

20 Q. You said September. Do you recall which year that was?

21 A. In 2001.

22 Q. Do you remember which level or grade you were at at (Redacted) school at this
23 time?

24 A. I was in primary 5.

25 Q. You said you were abducted, could you please describe to the Court how this

Article 56 Proceedings
WITNESS: UGA-OTP-P-0235

(Closed Session)

ICC-02/04-01/15

1 happened?

2 A. I was abducted at night. We had already slept. We had gone to bed, we had

3 slept. We were two with my -- with the -- with the mom and the door was opened.

4 We children were sleeping. We didn't know anything. My mother woke up, the

5 door was already broken open and my mother was asked to wake up. We were

6 asked to stand up, so we stood up with my sister, my sister who is my third sister.

7 I was asked to go out. My mother asked them, "Why are you taking this child? She

8 is still young." Then they started moving with me and my mother remained there

9 outside the house.

10 So we started walking and we went to a shop nearby our home and we found they

11 had already stolen -- they had already stolen things from the shop and we removed

12 the things and started carrying them and went on moving.

13 Q. Thank you, Madam Witness. Who was at home when this happened?

14 A. It was my mother who was present during this event.

15 Q. I think you also mentioned a sister. Did you have a sister there?

16 A. Yes, I had a sister too.

17 Q. Who were the people who broke into your house?

18 A. Since it was dark at night I could not identify them. I just saw them in the

19 morning.

20 Q. What were they wearing and carrying?

21 A. They were wearing uniforms and they took things which were in the house like

22 millet flour and sugar. It was dark at night so I couldn't identify all the things that

23 were taken by them, but I was not able to identify very well these people because

24 I was afraid at the same time.

25 Q. Did you find out later who these people were?

1 A. Afterwards I was able to understand these were rebels because at home they
2 called them Olum and I didn't know what they meant by Olum, but I understand
3 they were rebels.

4 Q. Rebels from which group?

5 A. When I was abducted I didn't know the group, but after some time I learnt that
6 they belonged to Buk's group.

7 Q. And did Buk's group have a name?

8 A. I understood later that it was called Sinia, by I didn't understand the meaning of
9 Sinia, but I used to hear it being called Sinia.

10 Q. You mentioned that after you were abducted you were taken to a place where
11 the rebels took certain things. Could you tell us more about that?

12 A. They removed things from nearby shops and also items from our house. And
13 these things which were pillaged, they ordered us to carry them and we started
14 moving at night and went into the bush. In the bush we reached around Pader
15 where we met another group.

16 Q. You mentioned that they told "us" to carry some things. So there is -- you're
17 referring to more than one person. Who were the other people who had to carry
18 things?

19 A. There were other civilians who had also been abducted from the neighbourhood.
20 Those are the ones also who carried the luggage. Other people I didn't know them.
21 There was only one person that I knew.

22 Q. Who was the person that you knew?

23 A. There's a boy whose shop had been pillaged. The boy was called (Redacted).

24 Q. And the other people who were also abducted, were they men, women or
25 children? What -- who was in that group?

Article 56 Proceedings
WITNESS: UGA-OTP-P-0235

(Closed Session)

ICC-02/04-01/15

1 A. Some were women, some were men.

2 Q. Was everyone an adult or were there also children?

3 A. Most of them were adults, but there were also some young children, but there
4 were not many.

5 Q. And what happened after you were told to carry things?

6 A. Nothing happened to us apart from walking and going into the bush. We were
7 going towards Pader.

8 Q. What were you carrying at this time?

9 A. When I was abducted at home or when we went into the bush?

10 Q. Tell us both. Tell us both of those things.

11 A. Nothing happened. Only that I was taken from that home and my mother told
12 them to leave me and they said they will beat my mother, so my mother left us and
13 went into the bathroom. So we walked up towards Pader and I had pain in my feet.
14 For us, we civilians and other soldiers, we slept on the way. And the next day we
15 started walking. My feet were swollen. They removed luggage from my head and
16 I just carried some small -- some small luggage. I didn't know what it was.

17 Q. When you were moving to Pader, did you try to escape?

18 A. No, I didn't try. Of course I was fearful. I thought if I tried to escape, they
19 might do something bad to me or even kill me because I was still so young and I
20 could not run in the grass, in the bush.

21 Q. And why were you fearful like this?

22 A. I was afraid because I saw them holding guns, things which I used not -- I never
23 used to see when I was at home. So that's why I was afraid.

24 Q. What happened when you got to Pader?

25 A. When we reached Pader, we put down the luggage on the ground so we were

1 told to go and sit somewhere next to a house. We stayed there and we saw them
2 sharing the goods. After that they asked us to come and they started to divide up
3 people. There's a lady called (Redacted) to whom I was assigned with someone
4 other -- other people were also distributed to other people, both girls and boys.

5 Q. How many abductees were with you when you got to Pader?

6 A. I don't know the number, but there were a bit many.

7 Q. Who were the leaders or senior people in the rebel group who were present at
8 Pader when you got there?

9 A. When we reached Pader we stayed for two days and I started -- that's when I
10 saw Buk and also Vincent Otti came as well as Tabu. After one other month, then I
11 saw other commanders as well as Ongwen.

12 Q. What was the first time that you saw Ongwen in Pader?

13 A. That day I arrived that's when I saw them because when we reached, all the
14 commanders were together, they assembled together. But I didn't know their names.
15 I just learnt of their names later, afterwards.

16 Q. What was Buk's title or role at that time?

17 A. I cannot -- I don't know his role, but I just saw them there, but I didn't know
18 what their roles were. But I saw that they were senior commanders, but I could not
19 know their real ranks.

20 Q. At that time was Ongwen a junior normal soldier or was he an officer?

21 A. Because at that time when there is food, they will bring food at Otti's house and
22 they would all go and assemble there and eat there. We had just arrived and we
23 were just there sitting seeing what happens. So I would see they would go to Otti's
24 home and eat there, but I don't know what their ranks were. I don't know.

25 Q. You mentioned that you were given to someone called (Redacted). Who

1 decided that?

2 A. Buk is the one who removed me and another lady to go to (Redacted). But I
3 learnt later that (Redacted) stays at Ongwen's home. But afterwards, that's how I
4 also learnt that I was sent to Ongwen's home.

5 Q. Who was the other lady who was also given to Ongwen's home?

6 A. That lady is also called (Redacted) the girl is called (Redacted) also.

7 Q. What happened when you were given to Ongwen's home?

8 A. When I was abducted, I stayed with them, but then later on we got separated.
9 We went to Kalongo side and then we crossed the road and we came towards Gulu.
10 That's what I can say. They used to walk with us like that. We moved from Gulu,
11 we go towards Pader, we go towards Kalongo. Other time I didn't know whether
12 that place was called Kalongo or that place was Gulu, I had no idea, but it was only
13 much later that I learned about that, after about one year.

14 Q. All right. I want to go back a little and discuss a little more detail about
15 Ongwen's home. Who was in Ongwen's household?

16 A. When I was abducted it was me, (Redacted) and also the other (Redacted), the
17 girl I was abducted with.

18 Q. Who is (Redacted)?

19 A. The (Redacted) I found there was a young girl who was not yet mature, but she
20 had spent more time in the bush than (Redacted) because I heard she was already in
21 the bush for a longer period whereas (Redacted) was only for six months in the bush.

22 Q. Did (Redacted) have any other names?

23 A. No, I didn't know any other name. I just heard of that name (Redacted). I
24 kind of heard the name -- another name, but now I have forgotten.

25 Q. What was (Redacted) job in the household?

1 A. When I arrived I would see that when food is brought she would take food to
2 Otti's home because when I reached there we were separated. Ongwen was with
3 Buk at first, but later on they were separated and that's how we came to stay there
4 with (Redacted) and the others.

5 Q. So when you joined Ongwen's home, was Ongwen present there or was he not?

6 A. He was there.

7 Q. If (Redacted) was in Ongwen's home, why was she taking food to Otti's home?

8 A. She used to take food there with (Redacted) because for us civilians, we didn't
9 know anything.

10 Q. Who took food to Ongwen's home, if anyone?

11 A. To take food? I didn't quite get your question.

12 Q. Did anyone give food to Ongwen? Who gave food to Ongwen?

13 A. I used to see (Redacted), they are the ones also who used to cook and at the
14 same time they are the ones also who used to take the food.

15 Q. Did (Redacted) have any other names?

16 A. Yes. She was called (Redacted).

17 Q. When you joined Ongwen's home, did you ever talk to (Redacted) or have
18 conversations with her?

19 A. At that time I used not to talk a lot because I was thinking so much about home.
20 I would always be sad. I will talk but not really so much because I was thinking
21 about my mother all the time.

22 Q. What were -- what were you thinking about your mother and home at that
23 time?

24 A. I was thinking of the way I was removed from her, when I would go back to her.
25 It was difficult for me to know whether I would go back one day or not. Those were

1 the thoughts I had because I was right in the bush and I could no longer see them, so
2 those thoughts would come in my mind and at times I would cry, at other times I
3 wouldn't.

4 Q. When you joined Ongwen's home, the other women in the home, did they tell
5 you anything?

6 A. They said we should not think -- we shouldn't think of anything and the clothes
7 with which we came should be thrown away. We were taken to bathe and they told
8 us that if we didn't throw the clothes we came with, it would not be good because
9 some people come with clothes which are -- which have already -- which have
10 already bewitched and they told us not -- to follow the rules in the bush.

11 Q. Did you try to escape when you joined Ongwen's home?

12 A. It was after a while that I tried to escape. I was apprehended because I could
13 not escape any further. At the -- at the time we were in a place near Minakulu called
14 Min Ladere and it's near Gulu.

15 Q. And what happened after you were apprehended?

16 A. When I was apprehended I was beaten because at the time when I tried to
17 escape it was raining and they followed my footsteps. They found me hiding and
18 they caught me, took me back. They told me that they were going to kill me, but
19 they did not kill me, but I was beaten severely. After they had beaten me, I decided
20 that I was not going to attempt any further escapes because I knew that if I did
21 attempt another escape then I would definitely be killed.

22 Q. Who instructed that you be beaten?

23 A. Ongwen -- Ongwen and some of the other commanders were there. Some of
24 the other commanders also got up and beat me. I was beaten about 50 strokes, more
25 than 50. My hands were all swollen. I do not know exactly who issued the order.

1 I do not know whether he issued the order because there were -- I did not actually
2 hear the discussions that were going on among them. I was sitting a bit far away
3 from them, so I did not hear their discussions. I do not know whether he is the one
4 who made the order. Even if he was the one who had issued the order, I don't think
5 I would have heard it because I was sitting quite a distance from where they were.

6 Q. Who beat you physically?

7 A. There were some of the soldiers. I cannot recall their names. They're the ones
8 who came and beat me. There were two soldiers. They beat me together.

9 Q. When you were in Ongwen's household, could you move about freely or was
10 your movement restricted?

11 A. No, I wasn't allowed to go anywhere. If I was going to collect firewood,
12 someone had to keep watch over us. If I went to collect river -- if I went to the river
13 to fetch water, somebody was with us. And I always thought, well, if they do not
14 see me, I will try and escape. I did try to escape and somebody saw me. The
15 person asked, (Redacted) went in that direction. Did you see where she went?"
16 The person said, "Yeah."

17 So they ran after me, they came, they caught me and they took me back. If there are
18 no soldiers, then I'm with (Redacted) because they did not want us to go anywhere
19 far.

20 Q. You said if there were no soldiers. Which soldiers are you talking about?

21 A. Well, the security that were protecting us, if they move away from us, if they go
22 back towards the trenches, then we would stay with (Redacted) because we were
23 always kind of in the middle of the camp. So if the soldiers go to their trenches, then
24 I'm with (Redacted).

25 Q. Who was the -- who was the security reporting to? Who was their boss?

1 A. When Buk was no longer there, it was Ongwen because Ongwen was the one
2 who was there.

3 Q. Just so that we understand, were these men in Ongwen's household or not in
4 Ongwen's household?

5 A. Yeah, they were part of Ongwen's household because if they said that this
6 group is not there, then there would be another group. Sometimes there were
7 different groups. There was Otti's group. There was Buk's group and Ongwen's
8 group. There were many soldiers, different groups.

9 Q. The security in Ongwen's household, where did they sleep?

10 A. They used to sleep in the trenches because there were many soldiers who were
11 in the trenches. If there were soldiers sitting, there were always -- if there was
12 commanders sitting, there were always soldiers seated around them.

13 Q. And where did you sleep?

14 A. I would sleep with the other girl that was brought and (Redacted), but when I
15 just arrived I saw (Redacted) going to Ongwen.

16 Q. When you say "going to Ongwen," could you explain what that -- what was
17 happening?

18 A. No, I cannot explain what was happening because when I came she was already
19 there and I cannot explain the beginning of their relationship. I know that she did
20 used to go there, but I cannot explain how and why she used to go there.

21 Q. What was the relationship between (Redacted) and Ongwen at the time that you
22 were in Ongwen's household?

23 A. When I initially arrived, I found that there were some people who already had
24 their husbands, there were also some people who did not have husbands, and when I
25 initially arrived that was my observation. Most of the people in the bushes usually

1 have husbands.

2 Q. Who was (Redacted) husband?

3 A. It was Ongwen.

4 Q. When you got to Ongwen's household, what were your tasks? Did you have
5 any?

6 A. No, I did not have any tasks initially, but then they -- subsequently they started
7 teaching us how to cook, how to go fetch water, how to wash things and how to
8 collect firewood and also how to take things to Ongwen. At the time I was still
9 young and we were being referred to as ting ting. I did not know -- at the time I did
10 not know the meaning of ting ting because I wasn't yet familiar with the language
11 there.

12 Q. What would happen if you failed to carry out any of these tasks?

13 A. Well, personally nothing -- nothing really bad happened to me, but with respect
14 to (Redacted), whenever I was going to collect firewood, (Redacted) would beat me
15 because she would say that I took -- I was taking my time. At the time I was taking
16 my time because my legs were hurting. We were told that civilians had to carry out
17 their duties quickly, but because I had -- my feet were hurting I could not walk
18 quickly, and every time I came back she would beat me. And whenever she beat me
19 then I would -- started thinking about my mother. I would always think, okay, if
20 I was at home with my mother and I had -- my feet were hurting, nothing would
21 happen to me. They wouldn't make me do anything until my feet healed.

22 Q. During your time at Ongwen's household did you see other people who were
23 abducted who were brought into the group?

24 A. After I had been there for a while we met other -- other people, there were other
25 people that were brought. That was a while after I had been there and I already

1 knew what was going there, I was already aware of some of the stuff that was going
2 there, but I was not quite aware of everything that was happening.

3 Q. Who would order that these abductions would happen or should happen?

4 A. I do not know who would issue the orders because at the time there were many
5 commanders, so I cannot tell exactly who would give -- who would issue the orders
6 because they would meet, I would see Tabu, I would Otti, Odhiambo, Ongwen and
7 Buk. And when I -- I eventually knew their names. I knew that this person was
8 called Buk. They would meet up and sometimes they would meet up when there
9 were new civilians, but I do not know who would have issued the orders. I do not
10 know who would have made the arrangements because whenever they were having
11 their discussions the ladies were sitting apart from them, so I do not know exactly
12 what it is that they were discussing.

13 Q. You mentioned that at some point Buk left and that Ongwen was in charge. At
14 this point who instructed soldiers in Sinia to carry out abductions?

15 A. At the time it was Ongwen that was there. When I was abducted, I was
16 abducted in 2002 -- 2001, 2002, I found that Ongwen was still with Buk. When we
17 went -- we started going to work, I do not know what the work was and I do not
18 know who issued the orders. We went to work in a place called Lanyatilo. They
19 worked there. I was a civilian and I had never heard gunshots before. It was
20 only -- the place was surrounded by barracks.

21 THE ACHOLI INTERPRETER: The Acholi booth would like to say that the sound
22 quality is extremely bad and I cannot hear what the witness is saying.

23 THE WITNESS: (No interpretation)

24 MR SACHITHANANDAN:

25 Q. I'm sorry, Madam Witness, I think the interpreter didn't hear you. Could you

1 please repeat your answer?

2 A. At the time after I had stayed there for a while --

3 (Video link disconnected)

4 SINGLE JUDGE TARFUSSER: They are now trying to reconnect in order to find out
5 if the connection is a better one. Just a few minutes.

6 (Pause in proceedings)

7 SINGLE JUDGE TARFUSSER: I think it works now, successful the connection, so I
8 give the floor again to the Prosecutor.

9 MR SACHITHANANDAN:

10 Q. Madam Witness, I'm going to ask the question again. After Buk left and
11 Ongwen was in charge, who would tell the boys to go and work?

12 A. Ongwen was the senior commander at the time.

13 Q. And what kind of work would the boys do?

14 A. When I had just arrived they met with -- met up with Buk, they separated and
15 they went to a place called Lanyatilo. At the time I did not know the name of that
16 place, but I subsequently learned of the name. It was known as Lanyatilo.

17 When I -- they went to Lanyatilo, they attacked a barracks. There were soldiers in
18 the barracks. The barracks started -- ran away. When the soldiers ran away from

19 the barracks, I was so afraid of the gunfire I also ran and hid in the bushes. When I
20 went to the bushes, they came, they apprehended me, they took me back. We

21 started walking. They went into the soldiers' houses. They started taking the stuff
22 that were in the soldiers houses. They came out with the stuff. I saw things like

23 flour. I was given flour to carry on my head. We started running and went into the
24 bushes and went to another place.

25 But I heard the barracks being referred to as Lanyatilo. And it was at the time that I

1 only saw Ongwen. Buk was no longer there.

2 Q. Who was in charge of the attack at Lanyatilo?

3 A. It was Ongwen.

4 Q. Was anyone captured at the time of this attack?

5 A. There were no civilians. There were only soldiers. They abducted two
6 soldiers. The two soldiers were killed along the way.

7 Q. How were the soldiers killed?

8 A. I saw some of them were -- they were beaten and they were also stabbed with
9 bayonets.

10 Q. Who killed them?

11 A. There were some soldiers who were there. They're the ones who killed them.
12 I was in the bushes. I saw the commanders, but I did not see -- I did not see the
13 senior commanders killing. They are the ones who would send the junior
14 commanders -- the junior soldiers to kill, so I assumed they are the ones who issued
15 the order.

16 Q. And who was the senior commander at this time?

17 A. After the separation with Buk? After the separation with Buk, it was Ongwen.
18 Most of the other people just come to Ongwen's household and have their meals
19 there.

20 Q. Sorry, just to be clear, who was the commander at the time of the Lanyatilo
21 attack? You said it was Ongwen, but is that -- I'm just checking whether that's
22 correct?

23 A. Yes, it is.

24 Q. What did you have to do after this attack?

25 A. I did not do anything.

Article 56 Proceedings
WITNESS: UGA-OTP-P-0235

(Closed Session)

ICC-02/04-01/15

1 Q. You mentioned that you were given flour to carry on your head; is that correct?

2 A. Yes, it is. I did carry the flour, but I did not do anything else, but I did carry
3 the flour till we got to our destination. At the time I had not -- I had not yet -- I
4 hadn't yet been there for up to a year, so I hadn't been there for many months.

5 Q. I want to come back to abductees being brought into where you were.
6 What -- did you see any girls being brought into your unit after you joined Ongwen's
7 household?

8 A. The girls that I saw were (Redacted). Those were the girls that
9 were -- (Redacted) was brought there a week after I had been abducted and we stayed
10 with (Redacted). We went with (Redacted), and those are the people that we went
11 with to Congo.

12 Q. Now, we will talk about these girls in detail, but before that, what about girls
13 who did not join Ongwen's household but joined the unit more generally, were other
14 girls brought into Sinia when you were there?

15 A. Is it different from the ladies that were in Ongwen's household or is it -- are you
16 talking about a group that was just brought there?

17 Q. Yes. Other than the ladies in Ongwen's household, were other women ever
18 brought to Sinia when you were there?

19 A. Yes, they did. But I do not know how many. At the time that I was abducted
20 there were many, there were so many groups and the people -- they abducted quite a
21 number of people that I saw.

22 Q. And what happens when these women were brought to Sinia?

23 A. From my observation when people are abducted, they ask you whether you
24 want to go home. If you say "we want to go" -- we did say that we wanted to go
25 home because we were still civilians and we did not know that if you told them that

1 "yes, I wanted to go home," they would beat you. But as soon as you say you want
2 to go home, they will take you -- tell you to lie down and beat you.
3 And then the next time they ask you -- they put that question to you, "Do you want to
4 go home?" we would say no because we would know the consequences.
5 They would tell us, "Well, do you think you are the only ones who have homes? We
6 also have homes. We also miss our homes. If I also want to go home, I will also go
7 home." That's what they used to say.
8 They would say that "You always thinking about home, let's beat you for that."
9 That wasn't -- that wasn't only in Sinia. All the other groups behaved in the same
10 manner.
11 Q. Did you see this happening in Sinia?
12 A. Yes, it happened in Sinia. It also happened in other groups. If we met up
13 with some of our other friends, they would meet us -- they would ask us that, "Is it
14 the same, do you get the same treatment in your household? Do they also beat you
15 as we were beaten where we are?"
16 Q. So when girls are brought to Sinia and as you say were beaten, what happens to
17 the girls after they are -- after that?
18 A. I do not -- nothing, nothing different, but the older -- the older girls would be
19 taken to men, would be given out to husbands, but if you are still too young and
20 unable to be given to a husband, then you would be kept behind, but you would also
21 be beaten. Because they were all very young, we were all ting tings and they would
22 say, "Okay, let this person stay behind. She's still a ting ting."
23 But then as soon as you're a little bit mature they would call soldiers and say, "Okay,
24 come and take whoever it is you want to be your wife because they are old enough to
25 be wives." And then the men would come and pick their wives. That's what I saw

1 happening.

2 Q. When you say that they would call soldiers and distribute them, who are
3 you -- who are we talking about?

4 A. On the occasions when the senior commanders met, they would all be together
5 and then the -- it was the girls, the girls were put there and then it was the senior
6 officers that would come and select whoever it is they wanted to pick.

7 If Ongwen was in his group, the same thing would happen. If anybody was in his
8 group, that's what was happened because they would ask us, "Okay, the civilians,
9 you've only just been arrested -- you've only just been abducted recently, you go to
10 this place, you go to that part." The young boys would also be taken.

11 Occasionally when we would meet, meet with some of the other people, we would
12 talk to them and they would tell us this is what used to happen. If you are abducted
13 and sent to this group, this is what they will do, this is how they will divide them,
14 because there were times when I saw new girls come and then be divided in that way.

15 Q. Let's talk specifically about Ongwen's group. Who would divide these women
16 to men in Ongwen's group when he was in charge?

17 A. Since he is the senior person, perhaps he is the one who does so because for us
18 women we stay aside. But I see they give him respect. I cannot say that he is the
19 one who does that, but I think it could be him because there's no any other person
20 apart from him.

21 MR SACHITHANANDAN: Your Honour, may I briefly refresh the memory of the
22 witness?

23 SINGLE JUDGE TARFUSSER: Of course. Go ahead, please.

24 MR SACHITHANANDAN: Could the court officer please pull up the statement of
25 the witness and show the witness the signature page? The ERN is 240-0003.

1 THE COURT OFFICER (via video link): Mr President, the statement at the bottom of
2 the page for all the signatures are -- the document is being shown to the witness.

3 SINGLE JUDGE TARFUSSER: Thank you very much, Felipe.

4 MR SACHITHANANDAN:

5 Q. Madam Witness, do you recognize the signature on this statement?

6 A. I signed, but I didn't know why. I thought it was just signing just for what I
7 have said.

8 Q. That's right. Yes. I would like to read out a part of your statement and then
9 you can tell me whether that's correct or not.

10 It's paragraph 126 of your statement: "When the girls arrived Ongwen would look at
11 them. The ones who were big or already had children were released. Then he
12 would send Kony a message about the remaining girls to say the girls you requested
13 have been brought. Then Kony would say give this one to so and so."

14 SINGLE JUDGE TARFUSSER: The question is: Is this correct what you said, what
15 the Prosecutor has read to you?

16 THE WITNESS: (Interpretation) Yes, some were correct, others are not like that as
17 has just been read. That was after I had stayed for almost four years. That's how it
18 used to happen. But when I had found when I just arrived, that's what I saw what
19 you have described.

20 MR SACHITHANANDAN:

21 Q. Madam Witness, I'm going to read another paragraph and you can do the same
22 thing, paragraph 127: "Sometimes Kony would say that the girls should be
23 distributed and other times he wouldn't. At times Ongwen would say that girls
24 should be distributed. I saw Ongwen distribute girls in Uganda and in Congo. At
25 times he would just decide on his own and give women to soldiers who didn't have

1 wives. Then he would inform Kony afterwards that this is what he had done."

2 Is this paragraph correct?

3 A. Yes, it is correct because sometimes Kony is the one who says he should
4 distribute, but at other times he says he's the one who distributed to soldiers who
5 have no wives. Sometimes it is Kony who says he shouldn't distribute and that they
6 should keep some for him. That's what I used to hear.

7 Q. Would soldiers get to choose which girl they get?

8 A. Yes, when the women are there they call the soldiers to come and choose the
9 girls. Each one picks his and they call the soldiers to come and then they say, "Okay,
10 this one is yours," and the person goes with the wife. That's what I used to see.

11 Q. What would happen if a soldier slept with a girl assigned to someone else?

12 A. When I was in the bush I saw that when you are given to someone no other man
13 should sleep with you. You as a girl, if someone is disturbing you, you should
14 report the matter and say that this person is disturbing me and you declare it. If you
15 don't declare it and if you have sex with that person, what I saw is that you are both
16 killed, but sometimes they are not killed and only one person is killed. That's what I
17 saw.

18 When I was abducted and I reached, other people who were there before me told me
19 such things happened a lot before I arrived, but also me myself I witnessed such
20 things and that's what I'm saying.

21 Q. Could you tell the Court what you witnessed in this context?

22 A. What I witnessed was when someone sleeps with someone who is not their
23 wife -- I saw it at Joseph Kony's home and also here I saw it in the case of (Redacted)
24 when we were in the Congo. When we were in the Congo we had just come back
25 from a place we were and we stayed in Angica, and there Ongwen was going to a

1 place called Nabanga during the peace talks, so we stayed there. And (Redacted)
2 started just saying things on her own and that's what I hear people saying. So when
3 she talked about that she said that Nyeko slept with her.
4 This boy Nyeko, his home is in Cwero. Nyeko was -- his hands were tied and his
5 eyes also were blindfolded and they went and shot him, but they said (Redacted)
6 should not be killed. So Nyeko was killed and when they came back, they said that
7 perhaps it is Nyeko who actually persuaded (Redacted) to have sex with him and that
8 (Redacted) was not at fault, it wasn't her fault.

9 Q. Who ordered the killing of Nyeko?

10 A. (Redacted) had been taken at Kony's home and the whole story had been
11 narrated to Kony. Before that when this person started having an affair, this was
12 even told to Kony, but he had warned that if this -- nothing had happened in terms of
13 sex between them, nothing should be done, but they should be warned. That's what
14 I heard later on. I didn't know that these matters were being reported to Kony.
15 So when this happened, then Kony gave the order for the boy to be killed. We heard
16 a gunshot and later on I saw (Redacted) who came back alone. Because they had
17 gone further away and we were at a different location. So I don't know who gave
18 the order for the killing.

19 Q. Did Ongwen find out about what happened with (Redacted) and Nyeko?

20 A. Yes, he was aware. He learnt of it.

21 Q. What was his reaction?

22 A. I don't know what he did, but I think he went to Kony's place and they had
23 discussions there. For us we remained where we normally stay, so I didn't hear
24 what they discussed, but I just saw Nyeko was tied at our home here and they went
25 with them together with (Redacted) also tied to Kony's home.

1 SINGLE JUDGE TARFUSSER: Excuse me. I was just informed now, and I am
2 talking to the witness, that you speak a little bit too fast. What you were saying has
3 to be translated, interpreted in English for us here to understand. The interpreters
4 make big effort to translate as good as possible what you say. So please if you speak
5 a little bit slower in order for them to have a better life, okay?

6 THE WITNESS: (Interpretation) Yes, it is okay.

7 SINGLE JUDGE TARFUSSER: The floor is yours again.

8 MR SACHITHANANDAN:

9 Q. And what happened to (Redacted) after this incident with Nyeko?

10 A. (Redacted) was beaten at Kony's home and then she was brought to our home
11 when she could not walk, she was carried and brought to our household. When she
12 came I started putting boiling water and started massaging him. It's me who
13 actually took care of her until she got better.

14 Q. Thank you. I want to come back a little to women being distributed inside
15 Sinia. Would girls get to choose which man they could be with?

16 A. No, they would not be able to choose because when you are abducted you don't
17 have -- even have the feeling of staying with a man. You only keep on thinking
18 about your home. So we would not choose the men.

19 Q. What would happen if somebody tried to escape from Sinia?

20 A. Sometimes when you try to escape, sometimes you are killed, but if you don't
21 escape, you are not killed. Not only in the Sinia group. That also applies to the
22 other groups.

23 Q. You mentioned that people would be killed. Have you ever seen anyone being
24 killed for trying to escape?

25 A. When I arrived, we were still civilians. There were two men who escaped from

1 the Sudan and we saw that and we were ordered to go and kill those two men, but we
2 started -- I started crying with another girl and we were told not to proceed to kill the
3 person. So other people killed those two men, not us.

4 Q. Who gave the order to kill these two men?

5 A. At that time it was Ongwen who was the most senior person, and he is the one
6 who could have -- would have given that order.

7 Q. Did you see him give that order or did you not see him give that order?

8 A. I didn't see him give an order, but I thought since he's the most senior person,
9 perhaps he's the one who could have made the order because Buk was not there.

10 MR SACHITHANANDAN: Your Honour, I'm going to refresh.

11 Court officer, could we please pull up the same statement at page 6, please. The
12 paragraph number is going to be 40.

13 Q. Madam Witness, I'm going to read out a paragraph of your statement. It's the
14 same statement that I showed you earlier, and I'm going to read out paragraph 40 in
15 that statement.

16 Okay, I'm starting now: "Not long after I was abducted, I saw Ongwen issue an
17 order to kill two men who were tied together. He said those men had escaped from
18 the LRA in Sudan and they had been found back at their homes. These two men
19 were from Pader. Ongwen said we should go and beat these people and beat them
20 until we had their blood splashed on us. Those of us there were newly abducted and
21 we were told as civilians we should kill people so that we could never go back home.
22 As I was going there I was crying so hard that I could not do it."

23 Madam Witness, could you tell us whether this paragraph is correct?

24 A. It is correct. You know sometimes one can forget some things and sometimes
25 it's difficult to answer some of the questions.

1 Q. Of course. Who carried out the killing of these two men?

2 A. They were -- they were killed by the men. We didn't reach there so I cannot
3 remember the men and I've even forgotten their names, but what I know is they were
4 killed by men, civilian men who killed them.

5 Q. And how do you know that they were killed by civilian men?

6 A. Because when we were going to kill them, we were the ones who were selected,
7 the civilians who were selected to go and kill them, but when we came back and left
8 the place, those other men were still there, so they could have been the one who killed
9 them.

10 Q. When you say you were selected, who selected you to kill these men?

11 A. I'm saying that we were selected, but actually they said we should go and kill
12 the civilians although I'm saying they selected us because I observed that it is only the
13 new abductees who went there and there were no soldiers amongst us. That's why
14 I'm saying we were selected to go and kill.

15 Q. Now, you confirmed that you were crying so hard that you could not carry out
16 this task. Why were you crying?

17 A. I was crying because it was so painful to kill and I was not able to do that, and
18 also ever since I was at home I used not to see anyone being killed. I have never
19 seen any dead person, so that's why I was crying because it was too painful for me
20 and it was horrifying.

21 Q. Thank you, Madam Witness. We're going to talk about training inside Sinia.
22 Did you ever see when you were in Uganda people being trained to do anything in
23 the Sinia unit?

24 A. I didn't.

25 Q. Perhaps I wasn't being clear. What about things like marching, using guns, did

Article 56 Proceedings
WITNESS: UGA-OTP-P-0235

(Closed Session)

ICC-02/04-01/15

1 you ever see anyone being taught anything like that?

2 A. Yes, it's actually the men who were trained and the other marching, when we
3 were in Congo, that's when we participated in the marching with the girls, with the
4 other ladies we -- whom we got in Congo. But in Uganda it is true in the group of
5 Sinia, there were people who would march and I also heard from others that they
6 would also do such things like marching.

7 Q. And these people who would march and do such things, were there only men,
8 or for example were there also younger people involved in that?

9 A. Sometimes only men will do the marching, but at times also like in Congo we
10 are mixed both men and women. The women which were abducted in the Congo
11 also would participate in the marching and the people who -- the older men who
12 didn't know marching were also trained to do so.

13 Q. Okay. But in Uganda did you ever see children being trained or was it only
14 adults who were trained?

15 A. I didn't see. I only saw when I arrived and that's when I observed that even
16 women had guns as well as men, but I didn't see the training.

17 Q. When you say you saw when you arrived, what did you see with regard to
18 training when you arrived in Pader?

19 A. I didn't, I didn't see any training.

20 MR SACHITHANANDAN: Your Honour, refreshing briefly.

21 Court officer, if we could please pull up the same statement page 6 and I want to read
22 out paragraph 36.

23 Q. Madam Witness, I'm going to read another paragraph in your statement and
24 we'll do the same exercise we did earlier.

25 I'm starting now: "In Pader they taught the boys how to parade and how to hold a

1 gun. I was not trained at all until 2008 when I was in the Congo. I was never given
2 a gun or taught how to use a gun."

3 Madam Witness, could you tell us whether this is correct?

4 A. Actually, I'm forgetting other things because when things take a long time, you
5 can forget and also answering questions also -- I also find answering questions
6 difficult.

7 Q. That's perfectly understandable. Don't feel stressed, but can you tell us
8 whether the paragraph that I read, whether that is correct?

9 A. Yes, it is correct. But there are some issues which I'm already forgetting, that's
10 why I'm unable to answer some of the questions right away because when I reached
11 home I didn't want to think about all these things any more.

12 Q. That's not a problem. Madam Witness, I want to talk about when, if at all,
13 your group left Uganda. Did your group ever leave Uganda?

14 A. Yes, when I was there, we left for Sudan. That was the first time for me to
15 reach Sudan. So we went to Sudan with the Ongwen group and we came back from
16 Sudan later, but the other groups remained. Not all the groups left. But when we
17 came back from Sudan, we again went back to Sudan and we stayed around the
18 border up to the time we went to Congo.

19 Q. Could you please tell us about when you went to the Congo.

20 A. Yes, I can.

21 Q. Please go ahead.

22 A. That was in 2006, around there. That was around the time of peace talks, we
23 were in Laceykot area, so we crossed the Laceykot road. We stayed in someplace.
24 Then I saw a man called Ocora Walter who brought for us some food and then they
25 said, "Where do you stay?" We said, "Owiny ki Bul" which is in Sudan.

1 So we started moving, going to Owiny ki Bul, where we stayed for some time. And
2 when we were there, there were preparations for going to the Congo. We didn't
3 know, but we were just told that there is -- we were going to move to some other
4 place. So we got prepared for the journey, we started moving and as we were
5 moving we were attacked by some soldiers. We came back and stayed at the border
6 of Congo and Uganda. We stayed there for some time.
7 So we -- from there we came back to Sudan for -- we stayed -- we walked in Sudan for
8 a long time and in the evening we reached the riverbank and then we stayed at the
9 bank and we saw people coming from that other side of the bank with jerrycans so
10 that they could transfer we -- so that they could -- so that they could transfer us from
11 this side of the bank of the river to the other side of the river into the Congo.

12 Q. And where did you stay in the Congo?

13 A. When we first arrived we stayed in the place called Potoboo, we stayed in a
14 second place called Angica, and thirdly in Kiswahili. And from there we moved to a
15 place called Nabanga and in Ri-Kwangba that's where the peace talks were being held.
16 That's what I heard people saying.

17 Q. What kind of houses did the Ongwen household have at that time?

18 A. There were three houses where we stayed.

19 Q. And who stayed in which house?

20 A. We were the ones staying there. We were five girls or women and among the
21 five there is the one house which was for Ongwen where he would sleep, one house
22 was a kitchen and one house, that's where we were -- we would sleep.

23 Q. Who were the five girls?

24 A. There was (Redacted), myself, (Redacted).

25 Q. Madam Witness, I'm just going to ask the Judge a question.

Article 56 Proceedings
WITNESS: UGA-OTP-P-0235

(Closed Session)

ICC-02/04-01/15

1 MR SACHITHANANDAN: Your Honour, this is probably a good time to break if
2 we are breaking at 11.

3 SINGLE JUDGE TARFUSSER: I was going to say, yes.

4 Madam Witness, we are making a break of half an hour and then we come back with
5 the questioning of the Prosecutor, okay? Thank you very much.

6 The hearing is adjourned until 11.30.

7 THE COURT USHER: All rise.

8 (Recess taken at 10.59 a.m.)

9 *(Upon resuming in closed session at 11.30 a.m.) Reclassified as Open session

10 THE COURT USHER: All rise.

11 Please be seated.

12 SINGLE JUDGE TARFUSSER: Good morning again.

13 We are waiting for the witness which is sitting down in Kampala.

14 Okay. Madam Witness, can you hear me? Madam Witness, can you hear me?

15 THE ACHOLI INTERPRETER: There is no response coming through to the Acholi
16 booth.

17 SINGLE JUDGE TARFUSSER: Madam Witness, can you hear The Hague? I can
18 see you, but I can't hear you.

19 Felipe? Felipe, can you tell us if the connection is working, if you can hear, if
20 Kampala can hear The Hague?

21 THE COURT OFFICER (Via video link): Mr President, I will repeat. I can hear you
22 well. We can hear you well. Everything seems to be working fine. I just moved
23 forward the witness closer to the microphone.

24 SINGLE JUDGE TARFUSSER: Okay.

25 THE COURT OFFICER (Via video link): (Indiscernible) muted everything just in

1 case to verify everything is working. We are hearing you okay.

2 SINGLE JUDGE TARFUSSER: Okay.

3 Okay, then, Madam Witness, I will now give again the floor to the Prosecutor so he
4 can continue his questions to you. Okay?

5 Mr Prosecutor, the floor is yours.

6 MR SACHITHANANDAN:

7 Q. Madam Witness, we were talking about your move to the Congo before the
8 break. When you got to the Congo, what were your tasks in Ongwen's household?

9 A. Any chores that I was assigned to.

10 Q. And what kind of chores would those be?

11 A. Cooking, I was able to cook, laundry. Whatever it is that had to be done
12 I would do.

13 Q. Who were the people who had to take food to Dominic?

14 A. I also used to serve him. (Redacted), we all used to -- we all used to serve him.
15 We were all together and they -- also Kony was there so they all used to eat at Kony's
16 place.

17 Q. Now, you mentioned earlier that (Redacted) was the wife of Dominic. At this
18 time was anyone else the wife of Dominic?

19 A. In the Congo it was the five of us.

20 Q. Sorry, do you mean that all five were wives of Dominic? Is that what you
21 meant?

22 A. (No interpretation)

23 THE ACHOLI INTERPRETER: The Acholi booth would like to point out that the
24 sound coming through is very intermittent. We can hardly hear the witness.

25 THE COURT OFFICER (Via video link): Mr President, if I may (indiscernible).

- 1 SINGLE JUDGE TARFUSSER: Yes. But, Felipe, I confirm what the Acholi booth
2 says. I can't hear you well. It's very intermittent, the signal coming from Kampala.
3 THE COURT OFFICER (Via video link): (Indiscernible)
4 SINGLE JUDGE TARFUSSER: I have not understood a single word. I just
5 understood that you spoke.
6 So we are going to redial and to reinstall the connection and hopefully it works.
7 (Pause in proceedings)
8 THE COURT OFFICER (Via video link): (Indiscernible) can you hear us?
9 SINGLE JUDGE TARFUSSER: Not really. Nothing has improved I would say.
10 THE COURT OFFICER (Via video link): Can you hear us now better? We have
11 now two microphones functioning now. Can you hear me better?
12 SINGLE JUDGE TARFUSSER: Now at least it's much better than before. I can
13 understand what you're saying. I don't know, but it's not me, it's a matter for the
14 interpreters.
15 And I ask them if it's better. We'll try and then we'll see how it works, right? Okay.
16 So we try to -- we start again. I give the floor to the Prosecutor. We try it, we find
17 out how it works. Thank you.
18 So, please.
19 MR SACHITHANANDAN:
20 Q. Madam Witness, I'm going to repeat the question. I asked whether anyone other
21 than (Redacted) was a wife to Ongwen in the Congo and you said, "In the Congo it
22 was the five of us." Does that mean that all five of you were wives to Ongwen?
23 A. No, not all the five of us were wives. I became a wife while we were in the
24 Congo.
25 Q. Do you recall when you became a wife?

1 A. Yeah, when we were in the Congo. That was when I became his wife.

2 Q. Madam Witness, I'm going to ask you now some questions that are quite
3 personal and I apologise if they disturb you, but it's important for the Court to know.
4 Did you ever sleep in Ongwen's house?

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. Could you please tell the Court about the first time that you slept in Ongwen's
7 house.

8 A. I recall it was in 2006. Ongwen sent (Redacted) to call me. (Redacted) called me. I
9 went to him. He told me that I should go and spend the night with him. I didn't – I
10 was hesitant. I did not want to go, but he insisted that I should go. I went to him.

11 Q. When you say you were hesitant, what did you say or do?

12 A. I told him that I did not want to go because I wasn't -- I did not want to get
13 involved with any man in the bush. I told him I do not want to get involved with
14 any man in the bush. He asked me what don't you want? Do you know the rules
15 that we apply in the bush?

16 Q. And what rules was he talking about?

17 A. Well, he said the rules there, once you're grown up, once you're mature enough,
18 then you should -- you should have a husband. I'd seen this, I'd seen some of the
19 girls being given to men and it was very painful and I did not want to have a husband
20 or give birth to a child in the bush.

21 Q. What -- when you say it was very painful, what do you mean?

22 A. I was -- I was still young. That was the first time that -- it was my first time to
23 be with a man and it -- I wasn't -- I don't think I would have been able to have a child.
24 (No interpretation)

25 THE ACHOLI INTERPRETER: The Acholi booth would like to apologise again.

1 The sound quality is very bad. It's very intermittent. We cannot hear the witness
2 clearly.

3 SINGLE JUDGE TARFUSSER: What can we do? I'm asking the Registry.

4 (Pause in proceedings)

5 SINGLE JUDGE TARFUSSER: The Registry is working on it. I hope that it won't
6 take long to re-establish a clean line.

7 Felipe, you confirm that you can hear perfectly?

8 THE COURT OFFICER (Via video link): Your Honour, I confirm that we can hear
9 you loud and clear.

10 SINGLE JUDGE TARFUSSER: Okay. So --

11 THE COURT OFFICER (Via video link): From our end there seems to be no trouble.
12 I can redial if you so wish.

13 SINGLE JUDGE TARFUSSER: But I think that now I could hear you -- I put this
14 question to you in order to make you speak and for me to understand if the line is
15 good. So I think it's better, we just continue, and if there is some problems, please,
16 I'd ask the booth to tell me if there are problems, but it seems much better now while
17 we are still working behind the scenes.

18 So please, Prosecutor.

19 MR SACHITHANANDAN:

20 Q. Madam Witness, I'm sorry, we've had some technical problems. When you
21 said that Ongwen insisted even after your refusal, could you tell us how he insisted?

22 A. I was afraid because I knew that those were the rules and I also knew that if I
23 refused then something would happen to me.

24 Q. What did you think would happen to you?

25 A. I saw some people when they were being called, if they were hesitant they

1 would beat them up. So I knew that if I did not go, then I would be beaten because
2 I had witnessed it, I had witnessed people being beaten, and that's why I decided to
3 go.

4 Q. Do you remember who you saw being beaten for refusing to go?

5 A. I do not recall. It's a bit difficult to explain -- explain some of the stuff that
6 went on.

7 Q. That's perfectly fine. And what happened when you finally agreed to go to
8 Ongwen's house?

9 A. When I went there, then he had sex with me. He had sexual intercourse with
10 me three times that night and I cried.

11 Q. When you first went into the house, what did he tell you to do?

12 A. He told me to undress.

13 Q. And did you comply?

14 A. Yes, I did. I undressed.

15 Q. What did he do next?

16 A. Then he had sex with me.

17 Q. I'm sorry to explore this in such detail, but which part of his body did he use?

18 A. His penis.

19 SINGLE JUDGE TARFUSSER: Could we not think that is common knowledge when
20 one has -- I would say among adults, without going into these details, I would --

21 MR SACHITHANANDAN: Very well, your Honour.

22 SINGLE JUDGE TARFUSSER: We are quite adult enough to know what having sex
23 means. I think it's painful also for the witness to go in such detail, so if we -- okay.

24 Thank you.

25 MR SACHITHANANDAN: I'm guided, your Honour.

- 1 SINGLE JUDGE TARFUSSER: Thank you.
- 2 MR SACHITHANANDAN: I'll move on.
- 3 SINGLE JUDGE TARFUSSER: Thank you.
- 4 MR SACHITHANANDAN:
- 5 Q. Witness, we don't have to discuss that in much more detail.
- 6 SINGLE JUDGE TARFUSSER: The alternative could be to read it out without her
- 7 letting relive all these things, just to read it out if you want. You know, I understand
- 8 the necessity on one side, but I have also to take care of the witness, so I give you this
- 9 alternative if you think in precise and very specific parts, of course, not all of it.
- 10 Witness, is this okay for you if you have not to speak about these things again?
- 11 MR SACHITHANANDAN:
- 12 Q. Witness, I'm going to --
- 13 THE WITNESS: (Interpretation) Yes, it is.
- 14 MR SACHITHANANDAN: Okay. Your Honour, with your permission I'm just
- 15 going to refresh her on one part of one paragraph.
- 16 SINGLE JUDGE TARFUSSER: Of course.
- 17 MR SACHITHANANDAN:
- 18 Q. Witness, I'm going to read you a paragraph from your statement and I'm sorry
- 19 for any pain that this causes you.
- 20 Court officer, it's page 11 and I'm going to read paragraph 77.
- 21 Witness, I'm going to start reading from the second sentence of that paragraph,
- 22 starting now: "He put his penis in my vagina. He did not do anything else to me.
- 23 He just did that. He did it three times that night. He did not say anything to me
- 24 other than I would be his wife."
- 25 Is that correct?

Article 56 Proceedings
WITNESS: UGA-OTP-P-0235

(Closed Session)

ICC-02/04-01/15

1 A. Yes, that's correct. Yes, I have -- personally I find it extremely embarrassing to
2 keep on talking about these things again because I've already spoken about it and I
3 find it embarrassing to keep on talking about it.

4 Q. We fully understand, Madam Witness, and our sincere apologies for this
5 experience.

6 I'll move along. After you first slept with Ongwen, did this occur again or not?

7 A. Not immediately because when he called me the next time, I said no, and it was
8 only after a week that he called me again.

9 Q. And when he called you again after a week, how did you respond?

10 A. I did not want to go. I was reluctant to go, but I went all the same.

11 Q. And why did you -- why did you go all the same?

12 A. Well, I went because he'd already had sex with me anyway, and there are other
13 people who were in the bush were in the same position as I was, and if I decided not
14 to go, then maybe I would get into trouble and that's the reason why I decided to go.

15 Q. Madam Witness, we're now going to talk about your life and duties as a wife of
16 Ongwen. What duties did you have as a wife of Ongwen?

17 A. At the time I had already been trained. I used to take -- to take him bathing
18 water. Whenever I had -- whenever I slept over with him, then I would
19 do -- I would do my laundry and wash -- do his laundry as well and he would also
20 bathe. And those are the kind of things that I was trained and I was also trained to
21 do other chores.

22 Q. Who told you and instructed you to do these things?

23 A. Yeah, he's the one who told me.

24 Q. Sorry, when you say "he," do you mean Ongwen?

25 A. Yes, he also gave us those -- he gave us that kind of training.

Article 56 Proceedings
WITNESS: UGA-OTP-P-0235

(Closed Session)

ICC-02/04-01/15

1 Q. Could you tell the Court a little bit what kind of training he gave you?

2 A. He trained me how to perform -- to perform my household chores. He told me
3 how to perform all those -- the chores.

4 Q. Madam Witness, did you ever become pregnant while in the bush?

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. When was the first time that you became pregnant?

7 A. It was with (Redacted) was my first child.

8 Q. Now after becoming a wife of Ongwen, how much time elapsed before the birth
9 of (Redacted)

10 A. I became a wife in Congo in December. In February I became pregnant. I
11 conceived in February because in March I did not have my periods because I had
12 already started having my periods.

13 Q. And when you say "December," do you remember which year?

14 A. We arrived in Congo in December on 24 December. The 25th was Christmas.
15 That's when we arrived in Congo.

16 Q. Now, earlier you said you moved to the Congo in 2006, so does that mean this is
17 December of 2006?

18 A. Yes, it is. Yes, that was when we arrived in Congo. And that was the time
19 that he started having sex with me. In January we were there, in February we were
20 there, in March I did not have my periods.

21 Q. When was your next child born?

22 A. In 2010. I conceived in 2009.

23 Q. What is the name of your second child?

24 A. (Redacted)

25 Q. Did you have any other children in the bush?

1 A. Yes.

2 Q. When was that?

3 A. Last year, October.

4 Q. What was the name of that child?

5 A. (Redacted)

6 Q. Madam Witness, you've had three children in the bush. What did you feel
7 about being pregnant in the bush?

8 A. No, it wasn't very pleasant because sometimes we were -- we were fleeing,
9 sometimes we were walking, so it was extremely difficult to walk with children.

10 Sometimes I had children on my back and I felt a lot of chest pain. When you're
11 about -- your due date, you have your child and then somebody else carries that child.

12 So that's what happened. That was the common practice. If someone has a child
13 they take the child away from you and then they give it to someone else to carry.

14 Q. Did you have any choice or option about becoming pregnant in the bush?

15 A. No, it wasn't my choice.

16 Q. Madam Witness, I'm going to ask you a bit about relationships between wives
17 in the Ongwen household. Was there any distinction between senior wives or junior
18 wives or anything like that?

19 A. Yes, there was that distinction.

20 Q. Could you please explain to the Court what that distinction was.

21 A. When we went to the Congo we were five of us and (Redacted) was the senior
22 wife. I was second to her. Then (Redacted) followed me, after which (Redacted)
23 and then (Redacted) was the last -- the most -- the most junior.

24 Q. And then what was -- what are the duties of the senior wife? What is the
25 significance of that?

1 A. From what I heard, the senior wife, that is normally the first person who arrives
2 there. And other people who come afterwards you have to be under the senior wife.
3 For example, like me, all wives who come after me, they also have to be junior to me.
4 That's how -- what I was told by the senior wife. Because that's how a wife and a
5 husband stay like it is done at home normally. So I didn't know that that's how
6 things were organised because I also hear even normally at home that's how things
7 happen.

8 Q. And when you say the junior wives have to be under the senior wives, what
9 does that mean?

10 A. Because in the bush you all stay together. The wives don't have separate huts.
11 We all stay together in one household, in one house, and even the senior wife is there
12 with us, the second one is there also.

13 Q. So what if there is a dispute in the household, is there any particular role that
14 the senior wife plays when there is a dispute in the household?

15 A. When we were together, like (Redacted), when someone -- when she gets some
16 information, then she's the one who passes the information to her and sometimes she
17 could even beat the junior wives for some issues.

18 So when we reached the Congo, she tried to -- actually she threw something to my
19 eyes and actually I would have lost my eyes. So when I reached the Congo I told her,
20 "The way you used to beat me, that will no longer continue from now on."

21 Q. Who gave you instructions on being a senior wife?

22 A. That's according to what Ongwen said. He just said that that one was the
23 senior wife.

24 Q. Did Ongwen give instructions about being a senior wife only in the Congo or
25 also in Uganda?

1 A. Even in Uganda, when I was abducted because when we were in the sickbay
2 where injured people are kept, where people are taken care of, they are all put in a
3 sickbay and in that place they are kept, they are looked after and they are protected
4 against soldiers who may attack. So they are taken care of until they get better.
5 So I was there with him at the time when he was injured. And then the mother of
6 his children came from different other places. They found us there. I was there
7 with (Redacted) and then the three mothers of his children came. And among those
8 wives I learned that the senior wife was (Redacted), and after (Redacted) there was
9 (Redacted), after (Redacted) there was (Redacted). And this is the first time I saw the
10 mothers of -- the mothers of his children before they were released.

11 Q. Right. But now when you say Ongwen gave instructions, just to be clear, did
12 he give instructions in Uganda as well?

13 A. Yes, he would say it and say, "This is the senior woman; therefore, she has to be
14 respected." That's how he would say. That's what I heard him saying and that's
15 what I'm saying what I heard.

16 So the senior wife was released in Uganda and the second and third were released in
17 Uganda. When we went to the Congo it was (Redacted) who still remained as a
18 senior wife. And I saw this myself.

19 Q. Madam Witness, we're going to talk a bit about the women who joined the
20 Ongwen household after you joined. Who were the women who joined the Ongwen
21 household after you joined?

22 A. When after me, there was (Redacted) who arrived first, after which there was
23 (Redacted) came, and then (Redacted) followed.

24 Q. What do you know about (Redacted)

25 A. There's nothing much I know about her apart from what I said earlier on where

1 that boy was killed.

2 Q. What was your relationship with (Redacted) in the bush?

3 A. There was no real relationship. We were just staying like that because when in
4 the bush you should stay together with the rest. You should not be alone on your
5 own and also you should not start quarrelling because if you do that, you are beaten.
6 So the only solution is just to keep quiet.

7 Q. Did (Redacted) ever become a wife or did she not?

8 A. She was a wife too.

9 Q. And sorry, just to be clear, whose wife?

10 A. She was Ongwen's wife.

11 Q. Who became Ongwen's wife first, she or you?

12 A. I was the first wife before her.

13 Q. What can you tell us about (Redacted)?

14 A. When (Redacted) was abducted and when she was brought, she tried to escape, but
15 we started to look for her. But actually she had not tried to escape, she was at some
16 man's home. We started looking for her and then they said, "You have left (Redacted) to
17 escape, so we shall beat you for that." When (Redacted) was found, then they started
18 beating me and (Redacted). We were badly beaten, but (Redacted) was not beaten.

19 Q. Who instructed that you should be beaten?

20 A. It was Ongwen who instructed that we be beaten because we allowed (Redacted)
21 to escape.

22 Q. Who carried out the beating?

23 A. It is his escorts who beat me. The kadogis who were -- who had just been
24 abducted, they're the ones who beat us.

25 Q. Sorry, you used a word which sounded like kadogos. Is that correct? What

1 was the word again?

2 A. I hear the young boys are called kadogi, and they are the ones who beat -- who
3 beat us.

4 Q. When you say "young boys," how young are we talking approximately?

5 A. Around 15 years, according to my estimate.

6 Q. Do you remember seeing anybody who you thought could be less than 15 years
7 or not?

8 A. There were two boys who beat us, me and (Redacted), and their age was about
9 that, 15, about that age.

10 Q. How many times did they beat you, approximately, or for how long?

11 A. We were beaten -- I was -- I was beaten first ten canes and then afterwards
12 another ten canes and it was repeated like that, so if you add up all that, it comes to so
13 many canes, lashes. I can't say how many lashes we received.

14 Q. Do you have scars on your body from any beating that you have received in the
15 bush?

16 A. There were no scars apart from the scars which resulted after I was beaten in the
17 Sudan. On my breasts.

18 Q. Who beat you when you were in the Sudan?

19 A. He's the one who beat us.

20 Q. Sorry, we have to be so detailed because we are recording this. Who do you
21 mean by "he"?

22 A. It is Ongwen who beat us.

23 Q. Why did he beat you?

24 A. Because on that day we were cooking, we had finished cooking and we took
25 food and they ate. After eating, (Redacted) had slipped off because (Redacted) had a

1 child called (Redacted). For us we didn't have children at that time. So when we
2 were already sleeping he came at night and began waking up -- waking us up and
3 told us to get up and he'd ask us to go to where he sleeps. We reached there and
4 found that the bed was -- had not been made. And he said, "That's why we are -- I
5 have woken you up because the bed is not prepared."
6 We started to prepare the bed. He said, "Leave it because why didn't you do it
7 earlier?" Then we said we had forgotten. Then he said, "All of you, how can all of
8 you forget? If some of you are cooking, others can at least remember to prepare the
9 bed, to make the bed."
10 So we came back to our house. When we came back he told us to sleep. He told me
11 first to go to bed, to lie down. He gave me ten canes and then he beat (Redacted), he
12 beat also (Redacted). He kept on going around like that and so we actually got so
13 many canes until a brother of his called Latoni who came and then started stopping
14 him, asking him, "Why are you beating these people?" He said, "These people didn't
15 make my bed." So he had two canes in his hands and he was beating us with the
16 two canes and we were all crying.
17 Then Latoni stopped him and he stopped. Then he called us and said -- then Latoni
18 asked us and said, "What did you do?" And we said, "We didn't make the bed."
19 And that's how I got a scar on my breast.

20 Q. And who exactly was beaten? There was you, there was you and who else was
21 beaten at this time?

22 A. (Redacted), we were all beaten because we were together.

23 Q. What about (Redacted), was (Redacted) ever beaten in Ongwen's household?

24 A. Yes.

25 Q. Could you please tell the Court how and where (Redacted) was beaten?

1 A. (Redacted) was beaten when we were in Uganda. That's when they beat
2 (Redacted) because he had asked (Redacted) to bring him water for bathing,
3 (Redacted) refused to do so, and because of that he said, "Why do you refuse to bring
4 me the water for bathing?" I wasn't even there. I just came and heard that she had
5 refused to take for him water for bathing. So I don't know how the whole thing
6 really started. And I hear he started beating (Redacted) from that point.
7 (Redacted) was already pregnant at that point. So I don't know. He beat (Redacted)
8 even using a machete. He beat her also with a machete.

9 Q. When he beat her with a machete when she was pregnant, did she suffer any
10 injury or did she not?

11 A. Yes, the machete cut her arm a little bit around the elbow.

12 Q. When you say she was -- when you say she was pregnant, how heavily
13 pregnant was she at this time?

14 A. She was about two months pregnant.

15 Q. Other than the time when you forgot to make Ongwen's bed, was there any
16 other occasion when he beat you?

17 A. Yes, there are other instances when he beat us.

18 Q. In what kind of situation would he beat you?

19 A. I cannot remember now, I cannot remember because it seems I made it in my
20 statement, but I no longer recall what I could have said.

21 MR SACHITHANANDAN: I'm just going to briefly refresh, your Honour.

22 Court officer, I'm going to pull up the same statement and the page will be page 13.

23 Q. Witness, I'm going to read out a paragraph to you. Paragraph 98: "Ongwen
24 wouldn't beat me often. It was not a daily occurrence. He would beat me in

25 instances where he would tell me to do something and I would refuse or question him.

1 He would say 'you don't listen to me it seems like you have another man. I'm
2 talking to you as a warning, the next time you do this and don't follow then I will beat
3 you.' That's when he would beat you because he would say I warned you and you
4 did it again."

5 Is this paragraph correct, Witness?

6 A. Yes, it is correct.

7 Q. Madam Witness, I'm going to go back to talking about the wives in Ongwen's
8 household. You mentioned a lady called (Redacted). Could you tell us -- or could
9 you tell the Court about (Redacted).

10 Madam, did you hear my question?

11 A. Yes, I did.

12 Q. What do you know about (Redacted)?

13 A. When we were in Congo (Redacted) was pregnant. (Redacted) wanted to have
14 an abortion and he informed Ongwen about this. Ongwen said, "If you want to
15 make an abortion, you can do so." So (Redacted) made an abortion because Abang
16 had conceived soon after the child she had, the child was too young.

17 Q. When was (Redacted) abducted?

18 A. In 2005.

19 Q. Who abducted (Redacted)?

20 A. (Redacted) was brought to us from Pader from the group of Kalalang. They're
21 the ones who brought (Redacted) to Ongwen's household.

22 Q. You mentioned another lady called (Redacted). What do you know about
23 (Redacted)?

24 A. There's nothing I know about (Redacted) apart from knowing that she was
25 released to go back home to keep the children and at the time she was pregnant.

- 1 Apart from that, I don't know any other thing.
- 2 Q. Do you know where she was abducted from?
- 3 A. I don't know. I only hear that she comes from the -- their home is in Patiko.
- 4 Q. Do you know of any other wives of Ongwen?
- 5 A. Yes, I do.
- 6 Q. What are their names?
- 7 A. (Redacted) and (Redacted) as well as (Redacted).
- 8 Q. Where is (Redacted) from?
- 9 A. She is from Koch.
- 10 Q. Did she have any children in the bush?
- 11 A. Yes, she did.
- 12 Q. Where is (Redacted) from?
- 13 A. She's -- she's from Omiya Anyima.
- 14 Q. Did she have any children in the bush?
- 15 A. Yes, she did.
- 16 Q. Madam Witness, I'm going to talk a little bit about training, but this time -- yes,
- 17 in the Congo. Did you see anyone being trained to parade or to march, to use
- 18 weapons in the Congo?
- 19 A. I only saw the group of us who were taught how to march.
- 20 Q. And who do you mean by "the group of us"?
- 21 A. For us who were in Congo, we are the ones who got training for -- especially for
- 22 marching.
- 23 Q. And did this include men or women or boys or girls or all of them?
- 24 A. Men and women.
- 25 Q. What about children, were children trained in this kind of way?

1 A. No. There were no children. There were people who had been abducted, but
2 those children who were born in the bush, no, they were not part of the -- they didn't
3 do the training.

4 MR SACHITHANANDAN: Your Honour, may I briefly refresh?

5 Court officer, can I pull up the same statement, page 18 and I'll be reading out
6 paragraph 138.

7 Q. Madam Witness, I'm just going to read you another paragraph of your
8 statement. Right. And this is in a section called "Training in Congo."

9 I'm starting now: "If you were a new recruit they would not send you to attack but
10 once you learnt how to use the gun they would send you. Some of the people sent to
11 attack were young and others had already grown. People who had just arrived
12 would be called recruits as they were not experienced fighters, and the very small
13 boys were called kadogos. Kadogos would not go to attacks. When they say
14 kadogo I see young boys. It means they are young."

15 Is that paragraph correct, madam?

16 A. Yes, it is.

17 Q. I'm going to read you another paragraph, paragraph 137.

18 Starting now: "Other abductees would be taught how to use a gun and would be
19 given guns and would participate in attacks. I don't know who conducted that type
20 of training. Only boys were trained to fight. Some of them were as young as
21 twelve and they were referred to as kadogo but others were bigger and they would
22 have guns that were shorter."

23 Is that paragraph correct, madam?

24 A. Yes, it's correct.

25 Q. Now, these kadogos who were as young as 12, did you only see them in the

1 Congo or did you also see them in Uganda?

2 A. In the Congo.

3 Q. Did you ever see kadogos in Uganda?

4 A. If I did mention it in my statement, then I have forgotten. There are certain
5 things that I cannot recall. There are certain things that I do recall. So I beg your
6 pardon. Most of the -- I've given you most of the information.

7 Q. That's perfectly fine.

8 MR SACHITHANANDAN: Your Honour, may I have one minute to chat with my
9 senior counsel?

10 (Counsel confer)

11 MR SACHITHANANDAN: Your Honour, I'm almost done. I just want to ask one
12 or two questions.

13 Q. Madam Witness, amongst the women in the Ongwen household, was there
14 anyone that you were particularly friendly with or particularly close to?

15 A. (Redacted) was the one who was -- was the person that was giving me grievance.

16 Q. Right. But I think I'm asking the opposite. Was there anyone that you
17 considered a friend or that you were close to in the Ongwen household?

18 A. Well, I cannot recall. I don't know if I made mention that in my statement, but
19 I don't know. I can't recall.

20 Q. Thank you very much, Madam Witness.

21 MR SACHITHANANDAN: Your Honour, those are our questions for this time.

22 SINGLE JUDGE TARFUSSER: Okay. Thank you very much. I think we have
23 25 minutes. We can at least start with the Defence and then obviously continue after
24 the lunchbreak.

25 Madam Witness, I can tell you that the Prosecution has finished its questioning and

Article 56 Proceedings
WITNESS: UGA-OTP-P-0235

(Closed Session)

ICC-02/04-01/15

- 1 it's now -- and I now turn the floor -- give the floor to the Defence. We have another
2 20 and more minutes before the lunchbreak and then we continue after the
3 lunchbreak.
4 But, and I'm looking with a question mark in my face, I look to the Defence, I'm very
5 confident that by today we can conclude with this witness?
6 MR ODONGO: You're correct, your Honour. I don't think we shall take a long
7 time.
8 SINGLE JUDGE TARFUSSER: Okay. Thank you very much.
9 So 20 minutes for the Defence and then the break.
10 You have the floor.
11 QUESTIONED BY MR ODONGO:
12 Q. (Redacted), you are welcome and thank you very much for your brilliant
13 answers. We want to run you through some of the statements you made and to help
14 Court to clarify on some of them.
15 I will begin with your age or questions that are relevant to your age. You said you
16 were abducted in 1997; is that correct?
17 A. '87.
18 Q. Sorry, it was '87.
19 MR SACHITHANANDAN: I'm sorry to disturb counsel, but are we talking about
20 the age of abduction or the age of birth -- I'm sorry, the date of birth?
21 THE WITNESS: (Interpretation) That was my date of birth.
22 MR ODONGO:
23 Q. Sorry, you said you were born -- I'm talking about the date of birth. You said
24 you were born in 1987; is that correct?
25 A. Yes, it is.

1 Q. And it is also your statement that you were abducted in 2002.

2 A. I'd been in the bush for a really long time and I'd -- I was not very sure about the
3 year. It was when I came back that I was told that I was abducted in 2001. I had
4 been in the bush for quite a long time and I had forgotten about the date of abduction.

5 Q. Is it true that you were told by your mother that by the time you were abducted
6 you were 14 years?

7 A. Yes, when I was abducted I told them that I was 11. When I came back home, I
8 told them that I was 20 years old -- 22 years old. When I got home, my mom told me
9 that was incorrect. She told me I was 27 years old.

10 Q. And you told Court that you got pregnant at Nabanga, that was in Sudan,
11 around about 2006 or 7; is that correct?

12 A. Yes, because when you're in -- when you're in Congo -- when we were in Congo
13 we went to Nabanga for the peace talks and Nabanga is in -- is on the border of Sudan
14 and that's where the peace talks were being held.

15 Q. Would it therefore be correct to say that when you got pregnant you were about
16 19 years, 18 to 19 years?

17 A. I do not know. I wasn't actually thinking about it in that way. That -- it
18 depends on what my mother said because whatever I was saying I couldn't actually
19 remember my correct -- my correct age.

20 Q. Thank you. Because I want to put it to you that if you got pregnant around
21 about 2007, that was five years, about five years after you had been abducted. If you
22 add to the original years that your mother told you, 14, that would make it about
23 19 years.

24 (Redacted), I'm now going to talk to you about your first days' experience in the bush.
25 You said after walking about one or two days, you were taken to Pader; is that

Article 56 Proceedings
WITNESS: UGA-OTP-P-0235

(Closed Session)

ICC-02/04-01/15

1 correct?

2 A. Yes, it is.

3 Q. And you told Court that you first saw Buk, Otti, Tabuley and other senior
4 commanders of the LRA; is that correct?

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. Can you clearly tell this Court how you come to first meet Dominic Ongwen,
7 see and meet him?

8 A. It was when I was abducted I saw him on the day, on the day that I was
9 abducted.

10 Q. According to your statement of the commanders, top commanders who were
11 with Buk at that time, was Ongwen -- in your view was Ongwen part of them, equal
12 to them, or was he smaller in rank?

13 A. I later came to -- I later came to learn that Otti was Kony's deputy and there was
14 Tabu and Buk, Raska and then Ongwen, and I learnt that that was how the -- that was
15 how the hierarchy was. When -- when I was initially abducted, I did not know what
16 his rank was because I did not know what all their ranks were. I learnt about this
17 later.

18 Q. According to what you saw, what you experienced in the bush, when all these
19 commanders were around, was it possible for Ongwen to order -- or, rather, to give
20 any order for people to go and attack?

21 A. From my observation if Kony says something, he issues the instructions to his
22 commanders and then the instructions are carried out. But when we were -- when
23 we were with the more junior officers, the orders would always come from above.
24 But I do not know. I do not know anything else.

25 Q. Thank you very much, (Redacted). I now want to draw your attention to your

1 statement on page 4.

2 If the court officer could refer her to page 4. If you are there, can you take her to
3 paragraph 26.

4 I want to read this statement: "I was taken to Buk and Ongwen was also there.

5 When you first arrive they bring you to the commander so they took me to Buk and
6 he told me to go to (Redacted). I was not told why I was supposed to sit there."

7 You remember that statement, (Redacted)?

8 A. Yes, I do.

9 Q. So when Buk told you to go to (Redacted), did he consult Dominic Ongwen
10 about your going to (Redacted)?

11 A. I do not know. Someone just came and told me "Go to (Redacted)." I do not
12 know what kind of discussions the two of them had. I was a civilian. I did not
13 know exactly what they were discussing.

14 Q. I want to remind you that you said Ongwen was there. When you first met
15 Buk and all these others, Ongwen was there. So if Ongwen was there, could you
16 have seen whether he was consulted before you were sent to (Redacted)?

17 A. I was a civilian. I wasn't actually aware of what was taking place.
18 Some -- they just told me "Go to where -- go to (Redacted)," and that's where I went.
19 I was just thinking about home, and I wasn't actually paying any attention to what
20 was going on at the time.

21 Q. Thank you, (Redacted). Let's talk about the people you met in Ongwen's
22 household. In particular, I want to ask you about (Redacted). You remember (Redacted)?

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. Between you and (Redacted), who was older than the other?

25 A. She was older than me.

1 Q. She was bigger than you?

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. I want you to look at your statement in paragraph 28.

4 Court officer, if you don't mind, if you could turn to page 5.

5 Paragraph 28 you said: "This small girl was called (Redacted)."

6 Why did you call (Redacted) a small girl if she was bigger than you?

7 A. The reason why I said she was older is because I found her there, but in terms
8 of -- in terms of maturity, no, but in terms of seniority for being in the bush she was
9 there before me. But she was also slightly bigger than me, that's why I say she was
10 bigger.

11 Q. Thank you, (Redacted), in your statement you referred to a Teso girl, a Teso girl
12 where you say, "All the girls who stayed in Ongwen's camp became wives, there was
13 no other possibility. The only person I saw who did not become a wife was a Teso
14 girl who was rescued before she was old enough to be a wife."
15 You remember that statement?

16 A. Yes, I do.

17 Q. Do you remember the name of this Teso girl?

18 A. I used to remember, but I've actually -- I have now forgotten the name, but the
19 last time I did recall, but I've forgotten it now.

20 Q. Yes, (Redacted), did you ever meet a girl called (Redacted) in the bush?

21 A. No, I do not know.

22 Q. Thank you. Madam Witness, you said you were advised not to escape and in
23 particular you were reminded -- I mean at a certain point people told you, you know,
24 "You're talking about home, you think we don't have home? You think your home is
25 more important than ours?" Who were these people who told you this?

1 A. It was my abductors. They are the ones who said that it's the same people who
2 beat me, including Ongwen who was there.

3 Q. Did Ongwen also ask you -- tell you that he was also abducted?

4 A. He did not say that, but he was also sitting there, but it was other people who
5 were saying that. If I did say -- if I did mention anything to that effect, then I cannot
6 recall.

7 Q. Thank you very much, (Redacted). What I want to know is whether during
8 your fairly long stay with Dominic Ongwen he ever told you about how he went to
9 the bush, whether he was abducted or he went by his own volition?

10 A. He told me he was abducted while he was on his way to school. His mother
11 had gone to the field. When he was abducted, his mother heard them -- heard him
12 being abducted from the field. They started following him. The rebels shot
13 his -- threw a brick at his mother and the mother died. The father was also following
14 them and the rebels also killed the father. And that's what he told me. He told me
15 that he was an orphan. He told me that he has other relatives and he also had a little
16 brother. The little brother was still breastfeeding at the time and he wasn't sure
17 whether the brother was alive or not. That's what he told me. He told me that he
18 was abducted while he was on his way to school. I do not know whether that's the
19 truth, but that's what he told me and that's what I'm repeating.

20 Q. Thank you very much, (Redacted). I want you to tell this Honourable Court
21 when Dominic narrated this story to you, what was his mood, what was his feeling
22 about being in the bush? Did he like being in the bush or he was talking regretfully?

23 A. From my observation, he was thinking about his family at home. He was
24 thinking about his orphaned brother. He was telling me that sometimes he thinks
25 about his mother. He thinks about his father. That's what he told me.

1 Q. Thank you, (Redacted). It appears the Judge is indicating, and I know, that it is
2 time, so maybe we shall continue after 30 minutes.

3 SINGLE JUDGE TARFUSSER: No, no. More. Now we continue at 2.30.

4 MR ODONGO: 2.30.

5 SINGLE JUDGE TARFUSSER: We have the lunchbreak time.

6 MR ODONGO: Okay.

7 SINGLE JUDGE TARFUSSER: I would say.

8 So the hearing is adjourned to one and a half hours so you have time to refresh and to
9 eat and we will be back at 2.30 The Hague time, which I think is 5.30 -- 4.30 --

10 MR ODONGO: 4.30.

11 SINGLE JUDGE TARFUSSER: -- 4.30 in Kampala. Thank you very much Kampala.
12 Thank you to you all.

13 And the hearing is adjourned.

14 THE COURT USHER: All rise.

15 (Recess taken at 1.01 p.m.)

16 *(Upon resuming in closed session at 2.42 p.m.) Reclassified as Open session

17 THE COURT USHER: All rise.

18 SINGLE JUDGE TARFUSSER: Please be seated. Excuse me, I apologise for the
19 delay, but I was running and at the end I stopped at the wrong floor, so everything
20 went wrong. But it doesn't matter. Sorry.

21 Madam Witness, sorry to you as well for having let you wait for me, but now I'm here
22 we can continue with the questioning by the Defence. Are you okay?

23 THE WITNESS: (Interpretation) Yes, I'm okay.

24 SINGLE JUDGE TARFUSSER: Okay. Then I give the floor to the Defence.

25 MR ODONGO:

1 Q. (Redacted), welcome back and I hope you had a good lunch. We are so far
2 very happy with your answers, you're helpful to Court and I'll start my question for
3 this afternoon by getting you back to the Teso girl that you say was rescued before
4 she was ready to become a wife. Madam (Redacted), where was this girl abducted
5 from?

6 A. I didn't quite get your answer, I didn't get your answer -- your question.

7 Q. Sorry, (Redacted). You said there was a Teso girl who was rescued before she
8 was ready to become a wife to Dominic. And my question is: Do you remember
9 where this Teso girl was abducted from? How did she come to Dominic's household?

10 A. This girl -- this girl was abducted by the group of Tabu and he is the one who
11 brought the girl to Ongwen. And later on she didn't become a wife because she
12 was -- because she was saved.

13 Q. So she was abducted by Tabu's group?

14 A. Because it is the group of Tabu and Otti who went on that assignment.

15 Q. When she was brought to Dominic, where was Dominic?

16 A. Dominic was in Uganda.

17 Q. Dominic was in Uganda. Was he in Lango? Was he in Teso? Was he in
18 Acholiland?

19 A. He was in Lango on the side of Olilim.

20 Q. He was in Olilim in Lango?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. Now, where was she rescued from?

23 A. In Gulu.

24 Q. She was rescued from Gulu?

25 A. Yes. We were attacked by soldiers in Gulu and we were running and there

1 was a plane above us and also on the ground there were soldiers. We were hiding
2 and at the same time we would try to run and try and hide -- also hide at the same
3 time. She remained behind and she was taken by the soldiers, and later on we learnt
4 that she reached back home. She was called (Redacted). The other time I had
5 forgotten. I couldn't remember. Yes.

6 Q. From 2001 or 2, thereabout, when you were abducted, you lived with Dominic
7 until your escape; is that correct?

8 A. Yes, it is correct.

9 Q. In 2003 can you tell this Court your movement within Uganda?

10 A. Yes, I can. In 2003 we were in the sickbay because at that time before going to
11 the sickbay Otti had instructed him to go to -- on assignment towards Lolim, but
12 before reaching there he was been shot. So we crossed the Kalongo road, we went to
13 the other side, we -- then they reached -- they reached in a place where they
14 exchanged heavy fire and some people had to come back. And on the other side of
15 the road there were six people and six people on the other road. They started
16 shooting, exchanging fire with mamba, and he was shot in the leg and the escort
17 said -- the escort took him and hid him because he had been shot in the leg by
18 mamba.

19 So for us we ran away and we reached in some homestead where we stopped and
20 they asked about him, where he was. And then they said she was -- she had
21 remained behind. And when she ran away with the -- with the gun, she went
22 back -- he went back to collect him.

23 We remained at the homestead with other people. When we were -- remained there
24 we saw them coming with him when he was unable to walk. But when they had the
25 exchange with the soldiers, the others were so injured and they could not continue on

1 their assignment and Otti told them to come back because it was Otti who would
2 have sent him on his assignment.
3 Then we came back and we met Otti and Otti said that he should go to the sickbay.
4 That's how he went to the sickbay on the other side of Pader. He remained there, he
5 remained there in Pader and the mothers of the children came from wherever they
6 were. They came. There are three mothers of the children. That was the first time
7 I started seeing the mother of the children.
8 And we stayed there until he started walking slightly. Little by little he would try to
9 walk. And he was still not -- unable to walk although they wanted him to go on
10 standby. He was just carried and went to meet Joseph Kony. I didn't know that he
11 had gone to meet Joseph Kony because at the time he was yet unable to walk.
12 In 2004 he managed to come -- to cross the river and come to Gulu. He would walk
13 a little bit, then he would be carried and walk, and then he's again carried. He
14 wouldn't walk so much, but he would most of time be carried and that would
15 alternate like that. He walks a little bit and then he's carried. Until we reached a
16 place call Min Ladere and Telalogi and that's where we settled. We settled there and
17 then we crossed again the river. We went to the Pader side and we would go to and
18 fro between Gulu and Pader. And after that he was called and he went to Sudan.
19 When we reached Sudan, we went towards a big mountain called Imatong
20 mountains.

21 Q. I'm sorry to interrupt you. So far you've made some very clear statements.
22 Can you tell me, because you are talking about him, he, him, who is this? Who are
23 you referring to who was injured?

24 A. Ongwen.

25 Q. Is that Dominic Ongwen?

Article 56 Proceedings
WITNESS: UGA-OTP-P-0235

(Closed Session)

ICC-02/04-01/15

1 A. Yes.

2 Q. Thank you very much, (Redacted). Can you tell Court -- according to your
3 description Dominic was injured. Can you estimate the amount of time it took for
4 Dominic to heal properly and be able to walk? How long did it take?

5 A. It took about one year. About one and a half years. That's when he was able
6 to finally walk.

7 Q. So he was disabled for one and a half years?

8 A. That is how I observed it. It took about one and a half years.

9 Q. Thank you, (Redacted). Can you now estimate the time when Dominic was
10 injured? Do you remember any incident, maybe the month, in 2003? Do you
11 remember the month when he was injured?

12 A. Yes, I can remember.

13 Q. Kindly tell the Honourable Court.

14 A. He was injured around August. That's according to my recollection, unless I
15 have forgotten.

16 Q. Can you tell Court, (Redacted), whether you remember whether Dominic ever
17 went to Teso?

18 A. In Teso -- when Tabu came back from Teso, he was in Otti's group and he
19 moved with Otti and they went to Teso. I was still there and the mothers of his
20 children remained in the sickbay.

21 Q. So when you went -- you went together with Dominic to Teso; is that correct?

22 A. Yes, because the first trip it was Tabu, but the second time they went together in
23 Otti's group because Otti had his group called Control Altar.

24 Q. So are you telling this Honourable Court that Dominic never went together with
25 Tabuley to Teso?

1 A. No, he never went with Tabuley to Teso.

2 Q. Can you tell this Honourable Court whether you were anywhere together with
3 Tabuley when Tabuley was killed in Teso?

4 A. That group had separated. Now for us we were in Otti's group and we learnt
5 that he had died because Otti also went to Teso.

6 Q. Thank you. (Redacted), there is somebody you mentioned in your statement
7 called (Redacted). Do you remember (Redacted)? (Redacted)

8 A. Yes, I remember (Redacted).

9 Q. Can you tell this Honourable Court what (Redacted) -- I mean who (Redacted)
10 is?

11 A. I was with (Redacted) at the time when Ongwen was injured, but they managed
12 to escape and they came back home or they came with other soldiers, they escaped
13 with other soldiers. They went back home while Ongwen was -- remained still at the
14 sickbay.

15 Q. Do you remember when he escaped or deserted from the LRA around that
16 time?

17 A. Yes, I do. I remember he escaped when we were still there. I don't remember
18 the exact time or date, but it was in Gulu.

19 Q. When Dominic was still injured; is that correct?

20 A. Yes, it is correct.

21 Q. Thank you very much, (Redacted). Now, (Redacted), I want to take you
22 to -- when you said Ongwen -- I mean the stress Ongwen seemed to have expressed
23 about the death of his mother, how he was abducted, how his mother and father were
24 killed, did Ongwen indicate or at one stage expressly tell you whether he had ever
25 contemplated to escape from the bush?

1 A. He didn't say that, but when we were in Central Africa when Kony had called
2 him to go and meet him, because he left him in October last year, and I had a child,
3 I was still pregnant, (Redacted) had already delivered a child and the child was five
4 years old, so he said now that he is going, he is not sure whether he will still remain
5 alive. That's what he told me with (Redacted). And I said, "You go. Perhaps
6 nothing bad will happen to you. In case something bad happens to you, that will be
7 God's arrangement." That's what I tried to tell him. So we remained behind and
8 they went.

9 When they reached and met Kony, we didn't know that he had come back home. He
10 didn't tell us. Afterwards, after I had delivered in October, we stayed until
11 April -- until December and in December one day just on Christmas Eve -- after
12 Christmas on 26 December that's when they said we should gather all the
13 radio -- radios, and all the radios were burned and people were assembled and they
14 said in case you see any person coming, you first inform us and tell us who is coming.
15 That could be perhaps a government soldier.

16 And if -- they said if in case you see anyone coming towards us, you should quickly
17 inform us whether you are a woman or a soldier. That's what we were told.

18 So we went to another location in Congo where we stayed till April, and in April on
19 9 April, it was on the 9th that we were released, myself and (Redacted), we were
20 brought together and we were told that Dominic Ongwen told us to go back home.

21 So we thought that perhaps that last -- he had said that if he had gone to Joseph Kony
22 he would request Kony so that we are released and we come back with the children
23 because the children had been released in July. Me and (Redacted) still remained in
24 the bush.

25 So I reflected on that issue and I thought perhaps things had happened the way he

1 had said.

2 When we reached home we also learnt that he also was at home. But when we were
3 in the bush we didn't know that he had come back home. We thought he was still in
4 the bush.

5 Q. Okay. I'm sorry to interrupt. You know, I was talking about what he told
6 you about his experiences, his abduction, how he told you about how his mother and
7 his father was killed by the rebels and I was asking around that time did he or -- did
8 he tell you directly or by his body language by indication that he wasn't happy
9 staying in the bush?

10 A. Yes, because at that time his mood had changed. He didn't -- he no longer had
11 the mood of remaining in the bush because even his soldiers had been removed from
12 him. We just remained only him and me and (Redacted). So his mood had
13 changed and he was most of the time talking about going back home.

14 Q. You mean to say that at one stage you were -- I mean, they removed soldiers
15 from him?

16 A. Yes, yes --

17 Q. So they removed his escorts.

18 A. -- his escorts were removed.

19 Q. (Redacted), can you -- who removed them?

20 A. Because at that time Kony wasn't around there so Kony's deputy called
21 Omar (phon) is the one who came and said that Joseph Kony had said his soldiers or
22 escorts should be removed.

23 Q. And when they removed his escort, was he a free man or he was under some
24 kind of detention?

25 A. Yes, that was the case.

1 Q. He was not a free man?

2 A. Yes, he was like a kind of prisoner.

3 Q. Thank you. (Redacted), I want to take you to Lanyatilo, Lanyatilo. You told
4 this Court that Dominic was involved in an attack in Lanyatilo; is that correct?

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. Now, can you describe to this Court the difference between Lanyatilo and
7 Pajule?

8 A. Lanyatilo is a barracks which is near Pajule on the other side of the road, on this
9 other side of the road. That's how I observed it, but at the time I was still a civilian.

10 Q. Thank you, (Redacted). I want to -- I want you to remember very clearly since
11 you were with Dominic, or in the bush for that matter, do you remember any other
12 attack on Pajule in which Dominic was involved?

13 A. I don't know because I wasn't aware of an attack in Pajule. But I would hear
14 that people went to Pajule, but I don't know. I was at his home. I would have
15 known if he had -- if he had gone. So I don't know. Because at that time I know
16 what happened in Pot-Ogali. That's what I know.

17 Q. Thank you very much. You talked about your stay with Dominic Ongwen and
18 other sisters and you talked in particular about four other women. Do you
19 remember whether there was any other who maybe stayed for a very short time and
20 left?

21 A. There's a girl called (Redacted) who was there but released. Her home is in Pajule.

22 Q. So (Redacted) was just released by Dominic? Was it by Dominic or somebody
23 else?

24 A. It was Dominic who released (Redacted).

25 Q. Now, you stayed with Dominic from 2001, about 2002, 2001, up to 2015, about

1 2014. That's about 12 years. Can you tell -- can you describe to Court what kind of
2 person Dominic was apart from the incidents of beatings that you talked about?

3 A. In the bush from what I hear the soldiers saying, those who are cruel they
4 mentioned them and those who are not, they mentioned them. They say Odhiambo
5 was a cruel person and if he says something, he does it. And then they said Ongwen
6 doesn't do certain things and he cares about people and he has sympathy for people.
7 That's what I would hear them talking about Ongwen. They also said that he didn't
8 like killing people and he didn't like beating soldiers. Mostly he liked teaching
9 people.

10 That's what I heard. That's not what I -- I was only telling you what I heard other
11 people saying, but there are also other things I saw myself.

12 Q. But to you and his other wives, how did you perceive him? Was he a good
13 man? Was he a very bad man? Did you confirm what you say people said about
14 him, that he was kind?

15 A. According to me, for us the other women, he didn't have the habit of doing bad
16 things to us. Perhaps he does those bad things elsewhere, but with us we did not
17 have -- we didn't experience such bad things.

18 Q. So to you as his wives he treated you well?

19 A. Yes, eventually, but it -- initially at the beginning, as I explained, not so well, but
20 eventually, yes.

21 Q. When you stayed in the bush, was it -- did you hear people discuss about the
22 supreme commander of the LRA Joseph Kony?

23 A. Yes, we did.

24 Q. What was he said to be like? What was he described to be like, the kind of
25 powers? Was he such a powerful man?

1 A. When I was in the Congo I heard they said that he was a brigadier. If you're a
2 high-ranking officer you're referred to as a brigadier.

3 Q. Did people obey his orders?

4 A. Yes, because if you did not then you had to -- something bad would happen.

5 Q. Can you tell this Court what exactly people feared about him?

6 A. People were afraid of the orders because if you did not follow his instructions,
7 then you might be killed or you might be punished and some of the people who were
8 at home who heard about the mistreatment that used to be -- that people in the LRA
9 used to suffer, that's exactly how it was.

10 Q. (Redacted), Court would be interested to know some of those. Tell Court,
11 what was it that made people fear Kony so much, obey his orders?

12 A. Firstly, they were afraid of him. Secondly, they were afraid of the orders, the
13 atrocious orders that he would issue. And I do not know the other things, but those
14 are the two things that I know. But once he issues instructions, those instructions
15 have to be followed and that's what I know. And most of the time he is in
16 discussions with his commanders so I do not know exactly what he's talking about.
17 Most of the time the women are in a different location, so we do not exactly know
18 what they are talking about and we do not know why those instructions were issued.

19 Q. Thank you.

20 MR ODONGO: Your Honour, I think that's about all we can ask this witness.

21 SINGLE JUDGE TARFUSSER: Thank you to the Defence.

22 Madam Witness, I now ask the Prosecutor -- we are close to the end to release you to
23 go back home. I just turn to the Prosecutor which has maybe another few questions
24 to ask you. So I give the floor now to the Prosecutor.

25 MR SACHITHANANDAN: Just one minute, your Honour.

Article 56 Proceedings
WITNESS: UGA-OTP-P-0235

(Closed Session)

ICC-02/04-01/15

1 (Counsel confer)

2 MR SACHITHANANDAN: Your Honour, we would like to ask a very few
3 questions, just a few minutes.

4 QUESTIONED BY MR SACHITHANANDAN:

5 Q. Madam Witness, you said that the women stayed in a different location to
6 where the commanders would discuss; is that correct?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. Does that mean that you would not necessarily hear what the commanders
9 discussed?

10 A. Yes, because we are far -- far apart from them.

11 Q. Madam Witness, when Mr Ongwen and other commanders, if they discussed
12 how to carry out an attack, would you be invited to participate?

13 A. No. We were not -- ladies were not given this confidential information.

14 Q. Madam Witness, you mentioned that Dominic Ongwen was injured for perhaps
15 a year, perhaps a year and a half. That was your approximation; is that right?

16 A. Yes, to my recollection. Unless I've forgotten, but yes, to my recollection. I
17 have to think about it, but yes.

18 Q. Were you with him for every day of this year or one and a half years?

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. Every day? There were no occasions where he would be in a different location?
21 You would always be with him for this entire period?

22 A. We were -- we were with mothers of the children every day until we left.

23 Q. And was Dominic always with the mothers of the children or were there
24 situations where he was not with the mothers of the children?

25 A. Yes, the mothers of the children were around and we were also there, the

1 younger people were also there until we left the place.

2 Q. Yes, perhaps I'm not being clear. Dominic, was Dominic always with the
3 mothers of children or were there situations where he was not with the mothers of the
4 children?

5 A. He was with them until they released the mothers.

6 Q. Madam Witness, during the Lanyatilo attack, was Dominic injured?

7 A. No, not yet. That was in 2002.

8 Q. When Dominic took over from Buk in Sinia, was Dominic injured?

9 A. It was after he had taken over from Buk when we went to -- when he went on a
10 mission that he got injured. That's after he took over Sinia from Buk.

11 Q. So to your mind -- now, you mentioned that he got injured in August 2003; is
12 that correct? Does that mean that Dominic had already taken over from Buk at this
13 time?

14 A. (No interpretation)

15 Q. You mentioned an attack on Pot-Ogali. Was Dominic injured at the time of the
16 attack on Pot-Ogali?

17 A. No, not yet. It was at the time of Lanyatilo he was not yet injured. In 2002
18 I had just been newly abducted and that's my recollection and that's how I recall it.

19 Q. Yes, I'm mentioning a different attack now. The attack you mentioned at
20 Pot-Ogali, was Dominic injured at the time of the Pot-Ogali attack?

21 A. No, he was not yet injured and that is -- that was shortly after Lanyatilo.

22 Q. You mentioned earlier this morning that Dominic would send the boys to work
23 and then the boys would return with abductees. At this time was Dominic injured?

24 A. No, not yet.

25 Q. When Dominic was injured, did he have a radio with him?

Article 56 Proceedings
WITNESS: UGA-OTP-P-0235

(Closed Session)

ICC-02/04-01/15

- 1 A. Are you talking about a normal radio? Then no.
- 2 Q. I mean the kind of radio that people use to talk to each other with.
- 3 A. Yes, he did.
- 4 Q. Have you ever seen him use this radio?
- 5 A. Yes, he used to use it.
- 6 Q. You mentioned that during the second journey to Teso that you were with Otti's
- 7 group; is that correct?
- 8 A. Yes, it is.
- 9 Q. And you said that this was a group called Control Altar; is that correct?
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. Does this mean that around this time Dominic was in Control Altar?
- 12 A. He was in both Control and he was also in Sinia. He was in Sinia until he went
- 13 to Congo, but he was in both groups.
- 14 Q. And the group with Otti went to Teso; is that correct?
- 15 A. Yes.
- 16 Q. Thank you, Madam Witness. Those will be my questions.
- 17 MR SACHITHANANDAN: Your Honour, that's it.
- 18 SINGLE JUDGE TARFUSSER: Thank you very much.
- 19 To the Defence, is there one more question?
- 20 One more question by the Defence and then you are free to go home.
- 21 You have the floor, Mr Obhof.
- 22 QUESTIONED BY MR OBHOF:
- 23 Q. Good afternoon, (Redacted). I'm sorry you cannot see me. This is Tom.
- 24 A. Okay.
- 25 SINGLE JUDGE TARFUSSER: Just change the seat so you can see each other would

1 be a possibility.

2 MR OBHOF:

3 Q. Hello again, (Redacted). Just a quick -- just a quick follow-up question.

4 When we had discussion in early September you did discuss about Dominic still
5 having his radio. We asked you about this. Did Dominic use his radio a lot when
6 he was in sickbay?

7 A. No, because there is always a time -- there is a time for communication and
8 when -- sometimes when the -- in communication they -- the planes will come so they
9 make sure that the lines of communication are at a point when they cannot be
10 intercepted.

11 Q. Do you remember talking about Joseph Kony eventually coming down to see
12 Dominic in sickbay because he responded so rarely?

13 A. Yes.

14 MR OBHOF: That's all, your Honour.

15 Thank you very much, (Redacted).

16 MR ODONGO: Your Honour, there is one -- just one question I want to ask.

17 SINGLE JUDGE TARFUSSER: Go ahead. I hope it's important.

18 QUESTIONED BY MR ODONGO:

19 Q. Sorry, (Redacted). We shall come back and back and back and back just
20 because you are a good witness to Court.

21 (Redacted), you have stated that especially in paragraph 149 that Dominic Ongwen
22 was a good and helpful man. And with the permission of Court I shall read to you
23 that statement.

24 You said: "Generally Ongwen was " --

25 MR GUMPERT: I'm sorry to interrupt. The Prosecution would appreciate a little

Article 56 Proceedings
WITNESS: UGA-OTP-P-0235

(Closed Session)

ICC-02/04-01/15

- 1 more direction as to what this document is.
- 2 SINGLE JUDGE TARFUSSER: Yes. That's what I was asking. Can you give us
- 3 the reference to this document.
- 4 MR ODONGO: I'm talking about the witness statement which is UGA-OTP-0240 --
- 5 SINGLE JUDGE TARFUSSER: Now it comes.
- 6 MR ODONGO: -- 0003.
- 7 SINGLE JUDGE TARFUSSER: And paragraph?
- 8 MR ODONGO: We are talking about paragraph 149 on page 20.
- 9 SINGLE JUDGE TARFUSSER: Excuse me, paragraphs?
- 10 MR ODONGO: Paragraph 149.
- 11 SINGLE JUDGE TARFUSSER: 149, okay.
- 12 MR ODONGO: Yes, your Honour.
- 13 SINGLE JUDGE TARFUSSER: Okay.
- 14 MR ODONGO:
- 15 Q. In that paragraph, Madam (Redacted), you stated: "Generally" -- and I read
- 16 verbatim: "Generally Ongwen was a good man. He was someone who was so
- 17 cooperative and everyone loved him" --
- 18 SINGLE JUDGE TARFUSSER: How many O's? So cooperative. I mean, how
- 19 many O's? Just one, so cooperative.
- 20 MR ODONGO: Well, I speak slowly.
- 21 MR OBHOF: (Microphone not activated)
- 22 MR ODONGO: I want to --
- 23 SINGLE JUDGE TARFUSSER: You emphasised the "so."
- 24 MR ODONGO: Your Honour, you advised us to speak slowly.
- 25 SINGLE JUDGE TARFUSSER: Yeah, yeah, okay.

Article 56 Proceedings
WITNESS: UGA-OTP-P-0235

(Closed Session)

ICC-02/04-01/15

1 MR ODONGO:

2 Q. "He was someone ... so cooperative and everyone loved him, he used to be
3 helpful. If someone had done something wrong he would call them to him and give
4 them advice."

5 Is that correct?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. Also in your statement to the Prosecution you said that Dominic Ongwen
8 would talk and tell stories to the young girls like you, (Redacted), for example. Did
9 Dominic Ongwen also play, laugh and joke with the boys?

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. What kind of games would he play with the boys?

12 A. He used to joke with the boys that -- the boys that were used to him. That's my
13 observation.

14 Q. Was he at some points behaving just like them, like he was one of them?

15 A. Yes.

16 MR ODONGO: Thank you. Your Honour, that's all.

17 SINGLE JUDGE TARFUSSER: Yes, very nice. So we finish -- we finish gloriously
18 this testimony.

19 Madam Witness, I thank you very much for having come all the way to Kampala to
20 testify. Your testimony is now finished. You can go home. I really and sincerely
21 hope that you never again have to undergo questions on what happened to you in the
22 time when you were in the bush. So thank you very much and all the best.

23 Thank you, Felipe. And I think we are close to the end -- well, we are at the end of
24 this hearing. We can disconnect with Kampala.

25 (The witness is excused)

Article 56 Proceedings
WITNESS: UGA-OTP-P-0235

(Closed Session)

ICC-02/04-01/15

1 (Video link disconnected)

2 SINGLE JUDGE TARFUSSER: And if there are no -- if there are no further problems
3 to solve, the only thing is, as yesterday, we could -- and I think I would advise in that
4 direction -- that at least tomorrow we start again like today, also because tomorrow
5 we have a much slower day because we have consecutive translation in (Redacted).
6 So maybe it's better to have one and a half hours for the translators there to have a
7 shorter period of translations to do. So I think it would be advisable to do the same
8 thing as today.

9 So I will adjourn the hearing -- I adjourn the hearing until tomorrow at 9.30 for the
10 last witness.

11 I'm very pleased, by the way, that we managed also with the help of both of you to go
12 as far as -- we didn't think at the beginning that we would be at the last witness half
13 the way through the second week.

14 There is one thing --

15 MR ODONGO: Your Honour.

16 SINGLE JUDGE TARFUSSER: Yes, please, Mr Odongo.

17 MR ODONGO: For the sake of clarity and so that I may not be taken by surprise,
18 I'm not too sure whether I understand what we mean by consecutive translation.

19 SINGLE JUDGE TARFUSSER: That means only that you put the question, the
20 question will be translated physically, we have it in the ear, but then the witness will
21 translate to the interpreter and the interpreter will then -- it's not like with the two
22 interpreters we have here in the booth which have a simultaneous translation, but the
23 translation comes after the end of the question or the answer. It's only that. It's a
24 bit slower.

25 MR ODONGO: I would imagine, yes.

Article 56 Proceedings
WITNESS: UGA-OTP-P-0235

(Closed Session)

ICC-02/04-01/15

- 1 MR OBHOF: It would be more like a field interpretation.
- 2 SINGLE JUDGE TARFUSSER: Pardon?
- 3 MR ODONGO: Field interpretation.
- 4 MR OBHOF: Like a field interpretation.
- 5 SINGLE JUDGE TARFUSSER: Yes.
- 6 MR ODONGO: It's being interpreted directly from there.
- 7 SINGLE JUDGE TARFUSSER: Yes, yes. We have two translators in Kampala
- 8 sitting with the witness and they will translate the question to the witness and to us
- 9 the answer of the witness.
- 10 MR ODONGO: After the witness has finished --
- 11 SINGLE JUDGE TARFUSSER: Yes, yes, yes.
- 12 MR ODONGO: -- in (Redacted)?
- 13 SINGLE JUDGE TARFUSSER: Yes. That's why --
- 14 MR ODONGO: I understand.
- 15 SINGLE JUDGE TARFUSSER: -- it's slower, inevitably slower. Okay?
- 16 MR ODONGO: I'm much indebted to you, your Honour. Thank you.
- 17 SINGLE JUDGE TARFUSSER: All right. Thank you very much. See you
- 18 tomorrow.
- 19 THE COURT USHER: All rise.
- 20 *(The hearing ends in closed session at 3.40 p.m.) Reclassified as Open session
- 21 RECLASSIFICATION REPORT
- 22 Pursuant to Trial Chamber IX 's Order, ICC-02/04-01/15-584-Conf, dated 4 November
- 23 2016, the version of the transcript with its redactions becomes Public.